EVERYDAY ARABIC

DENT

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H. M. Nahmad and C. Rabin

كيف ينطق بالضاد



Beirut—the Gateway of Syria

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EVERYDAY ARABIC

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with a preface by
Professor H. A. R. GIBB

Conversations in Syrian and Palestinian
Colloquial Arabic with vocabulary
Phonetic and grammatical introduction
Lists of useful culinary, military,
political and commercial terms
Eight photographs

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PREFACE

Most people think that Arabic is a difficult language to learn. And so indeed it is, if one wishes to attain to a tolerable proficiency in reading and writing it. But perhaps it is the look of the Arabic script that has more to do with the current opinion than the intricacies of the language itself. Simple spoken Arabic is not at all difficult, provided one has the will to learn a few typical sentences and elementary rules, acquire a working vocabulary, and practise the Arabic sounds. For this purpose, the visitor or resident new to Syria or Palestine will find his needs admirably supplied in *Everyday Arabic*. In brief compass all the essentials are there, of structure, idiom, and vocabulary. The authors, with their combination of practical experience and linguistic training, have known just where the beginner's troubles lie and how to smooth them away. And perhaps it is not too much to hope that some of those who have mastered this book will be encouraged to take the next step and learn the secrets of the graceful but mysterious script.

H. A. R. GIBB.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD
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ILLUSTRATIONS

Photographs by the American Colony Photo Department, Jerusalem.

INTRODUCTION

In Arabic speaking countries two very different types of language are in use: Literary Arabic for all serious writing, public speaking, broadcasting, etc., and local dialects, or colloquials, for all purposes of everyday life. These colloquials differ from district to district, and from village to village. In the larger towns even the various religious communities are distinguished by their speech. In the cities, however, where people from many districts live side by side, there have developed forms of speech that strike a medium between the local dialects of the country and are intelligible over a wide area. It is obviously better for the foreigner to learn such a *lingua franca* than to study a local variety of speech which would be of very limited use only.

The language of the conversations contained in this book represents such a common idiom, namely that used in the cities of Syria and Palestine and the Syrian communities of America and Western Europe. It is also understood without difficulty in Iraq, Transjordan, and Saudi Arabia, and it will not take the traveller long to accustom himself to the differences between the local speech of those countries and the idiom he has learnt here. Only the colloquials of Egypt and especially North-West Africa are so different from Syrian Arabic as to require a new effort of learning.

It would be vain to expect in any type of Colloquial Arabic the degree of uniformity and standardization one is accustomed to in a Western European language. Every person speaking the language uses a certain number of local words and expressions, and on the other hand those who have had some

education intersperse their speech to varying degrees with borrowings from the literary language. Outside the towns one hears only local dialects which are more or less different from the common idiom. The traveller must therefore be prepared for all kinds of variations. A few of these are presented in this book: the 'Cockney' of Beirut (p. 42), the florid speech of a Haj (p. 58), the half-literary style of familiar letter writing (p. 50), and others. The language of the conversations themselves, however, has been kept uniform throughout, being neither too vulgar nor too literary. It is exactly the type of language the Arab would expect from a stranger.

The subject-matter of the book has been chosen so as to deal with all ordinary situations in which the visitor is likely to find himself. No special provision has been made to meet the needs of administrators, archæologists, policemen, engineers, or even housewives. It will in each case be easy to acquire the particular vocabulary required for these and other occupations, if one possesses a foundation of general phrases such as those contained in this book. As, however, food, politics, and business are very frequent topics of general conversation, vocabularies have been included at the end of this volume giving a copious list of terms.

The persons taking part in the conversations are a Syrian American family, one of the many thousands who emigrated to the U.S.A., and now, after twenty-five years, on a visit to their old home country and their relatives: Elias Haddad, a wholesale importer of Near Eastern products, his wife Mary, and their son Habib, a boy of 18 who has just begun to study medicine. They have come to visit Elias's brother Khairallah in Zahle, a little township up in the Lebanon,

who lives there with his wife Zarife and several children, the oldest of whom, Zaki, is in business in Beirut.

The Arabic conversations are accompanied by a translation on the opposite page, and by a vocabulary. The two complement each other. Arabic is so different from English that a literal translation is quite impossible. The student should first learn the Arabic phrases as a whole, as equivalents of the English ones, and only then look up the vocabulary to ascertain the meanings of the different Arabic words. Always remember that an English sentence, transposed word for word into Arabic, does not convey any sense, and vice versa. Moreover, the Arab intersperses his speech with references to the Deity and pious phrases which find no equivalent in English, but are essential in Arabic, unless one wants to be considered a boor.

It is essential to acquire a good pronunciation from the start. This will not always be found easy, as written descriptions cannot give a complete idea of sounds, and Arab speakers are not often at hand to illustrate the sounds. But the effort to find somebody who can make Arabic sounds will always be repaid, and it does not matter much from which part of the Arab world he comes.

Apart from pronunciation, however, one should be very careful in the choice of a teacher. Few Arabs have ever given any consideration to their own colloquial, and especially with educated men there is always the danger of being taught literary Arabic instead of colloquial. Also the teacher must be a Syrian or Palestinian, otherwise his language will not be the language used in this book. If no teacher is available, the student must learn without one, speaking whenever he has the opportunity, even though his entire vocabulary is

limited to a few words or phrases. Even the smallest effort on the part of a foreigner to speak the language will create a favourable impression and enlist the sympathy of his listeners.

We wish to express our thanks to Professor A. S. Tritton, Professor A. Lloyd-James, and Mr. S. W. D. Rowson for their advice in preparing the text and assistance in correcting the proofs, and pray that this book will contribute a little to the mutual understanding and collaboration of East and West—*insha'allā*.

SYNOPTIC TABLE

of the alphabet employed in this book, the Arabic Script, and the symbols of the International Phonetic Association

Arabic	*'Everyday Arabic'*	*I.P.A.*	*Arabic*	*'Everyday Arabic'*	*I.P.A.*
ا	**'**	ʔ	ض	**ḍ**	ᵭ
ب	**b**	b	ط	**ṭ**	ᵵ
ت	**t**	t	ظ	**ẓ**	ᵶ
ث	**th**	θ	ع	**ε**	ʕ
ج	**zh, (j)**	ʒ	غ	**gh**	ɣ
ح	**ħ**	ħ	ف	**f**	f
خ	**ch**	x	ق	**q**	q
د	**d**	d	ك	**k**	k
ذ	**dh**	ð	ل	**l**	l
ر	**r**	r	م	**m**	m
ز	**z**	z	ن	**n**	n
س	**s**	s	ه	**h**	h
ش	**sh**	ʃ	و	**w**	w
ص	**ṣ**	ᵴ	ى	**y**	j

THE PRONUNCIATION OF SYRIAN ARABIC

The descriptions given here of the different sounds can only convey an approximate idea of Arabic pronunciation. A correct pronunciation can only be acquired by ear, either from a native speaker or from the gramophone records of these conversations (see Introduction). It is not essential to learn the sounds from a Syrian, as the sounds (but not their use) are more or less the same in all dialects.[1]

Consonants

b ب the same as English **b.**

w و the same as English **w.**

t ت is not identical with English **t.** The tip of the tongue touches not the gums, as in the latter, but the back of the teeth. For practice: **tā** 'until', **tāni** 'second', **bēt** 'house', **tlāte** 'three'.

d د also articulated against the back of the teeth. For practice: **dīn** 'religion', **dēn** 'debt', **biddi** 'I want', **hāda** 'this'.

ṭ ط a peculiar Arabic sound, best acquired by imitation. It can be achieved by trying to pronounce a **t** and a **u** *simultaneously*. For practice: **ṭūl** 'length', **ṭibb** 'medicine', **shāṭer** 'clever', **fa'aṭ** 'only'.

ḍ ض a **d** simultaneous with a **u.** For practice: **ḍill** 'stay', **oḍa** 'room', **bēḍ** 'eggs'.

s س not quite an English **s,** but the English sound will do.

z ز the same as English **z.**

ẓ ظ a **z** simultaneous with a **u.** For practice: **ẓābiṭ** 'officer', **ẓghīr** 'small', **intaẓar** 'to wait', **ḥaẓẓ** 'luck'.

[1] For a more detailed account, read W. H. T. Gairdner, *The Phonetics of Arabic*, Oxford University Press.

ṣ ص an **s** simultaneous with a **u.** Try to pronounce **s** and whistle at the same time. For practice: **ṣabi** 'boy', **ṣōb** 'near', **ṣūf** 'wool', **'aṣab** 'embroidery', **nuṣṣ** 'half'.

sh ش the same as English **sh.**

zh ج the same as **s** in **measure. zh** is in some parts of the country replaced by **j** = English **j,** in Egypt by **g** as in **give.**

y ي the same as English **y** in **yes.**

r ر the Arabic **r** is rolled, like the Scottish or Italian, and pronounced in all positions. **ṣār** is not to be pronounced as **sah,** nor **marr** like **Ma.**

l ل is always 'clear', like the French, German, or Irish **l.** For practice: **lēle** 'night', **kill** 'all', **'ūl** 'say', **kalb** 'dog'.

k ك the same as English **k.**

In country districts, people often say **tsh** (=English **ch** in **church)** for **k.**

g the same as English **g** in **give.** Only in foreign words.

ch خ the same as **ch** in Scottish **loch,** in Welsh and German. Can be learnt easily by imitation. For practice: **chōd** 'take', **chamse** 'five', **ach** 'brother', **bi chēr** 'well'.

gh غ the corresponding voiced sound, similar to the French *r grasseyé*. Learn by imitation. For practice: **ghāli** 'dear', **ghada** 'lunch', **shughl** 'business'.

q ق a **k** articulated very far back.

This sound occurs only in words taken from literary Arabic. Mostly it is replaced by ' (see below) in the towns. But many educated speakers like to intersperse their speech with **q**'s, and in some country districts it is still used for '.

ε ع a peculiar Arabic sound, a sort of groan. One way of acquiring it is: sing down the scale on **ah** until you reach

your lowest note; then sing one note lower, and you have ε. Or else try to swallow hard. For practice: **εa** ‘ to ’, **εēn** ‘ eye ’, **εōd** ‘ sit down ’, **maε** ‘ with ’, **taεa** ‘ come ’.

ḥ ح another peculiar sound, a kind of **h** with contraction of the throat. Try to produce an **h** as audible as possible. For practice: **ḥatta** ‘ until ’, **ḥimār** ‘ donkey ’, **iḥki** ‘ he talks ’, **rūḥ** ‘ go ’.

’ ا the ‘ glottal catch ’, a sound similar to a cough. Very similar to the sound a Cockney or Glasgow man pronounces in **bo’le** for **bottle,** or **bu’er** for **butter.**

As stated above, some **’**s are by many people pronounced as **q.** In the beginning of words, **’** denotes in this spelling that the word can also be pronounced with initial **q.**

For practice: **ma’mūr** ‘ official ’, **fa’izan** ‘ therefore ’, **ḥa’’** ‘ price ’.

h ه the same as English **h.**

In this book, an **h** at the end of a word indicates the suffix-pronoun of the third person singular. It is not pronounced in that position, but only written to make the form of the word clearer.

Double Consonants must be clearly pronounced as such, whether in the middle or at the end of a word.

Vowels

The difference between **short and long vowels** in Arabic is very important. All long vowels must be clearly pronounced.

i is more like the **ee** in **keen** than the **i** in **kin.**

u like the **u** in **full,** with well-rounded lips. Try before a mirror.

a like the **u** in **but, cut.**

e at the end of a word, like the **y** in **city,** *not* like the **a** in **China.** In the middle of a word, like the **e** in **become.**

o almost like **u** in **full,** but a little towards **o,** as in **cod.**

ī almost like **ee** in **meet.**

ū almost like **oo** in **fool.**

ā like a very long **a,** as in **cad.**

Before and after **ṭ, ḍ, ṣ, ch, q, r,** the vowels **a** and **ā** are pronounced like the vowels in English **cod** and **card.** A correct articulation of the consonants, however, will lead by itself to the right vowel-quality, so that there is no need to mark this difference. In the same way, **i** in the neighbourhood of these consonants tends to become **e,** and **u** often sounds like **o.**

In many words it is permissible to substitute **ē** for **ā,** as in **tēni** for **tāni, sēεa** for **sāεa,** etc. However, usage in this respect varies from district to district, and pure **ā** is always understood and therefore the best thing for the foreigner to use.

ē is not a diphthong, like **a** in **hate,** which it most resembles. Some Scottish speakers use a pure vowel in such words, others can learn the correct sound only by imitation.

ō is distinguished in the same manner from **o** in **note,** and should also be learnt by imitation. The English diphthongs are very offensive to the Arabic ear and should be avoided, if there is any opportunity to learn the right vowel.

ai like **i** in **bite.**

au like **ou** in **house.**

It must be pointed out that the above descriptions of the vowels are quite insufficient. Arabic vowels are quite unlike English ones, and should at all costs be learnt by ear. Only

where it is impossible to find a native speaker, the equations given here might be used as approximate values.

The use of the different vowels varies much from district to district. Especially **i** and **u, ai** and **ē, au** and **ō,** alternate very frequently.

Stress

The stress in an Arabic word falls—

(1) On the last syllable, if the latter contains a long vowel or ends in a double consonant, as **kamān, miskīn, wābūr, katabt.**

(2) Otherwise on the one syllable but last: **ghada, lēle, kifte, wālid.**

(3) In some words on the second syllable from the end. This is in this book always indicated by an accent: **tfáḍḍalu, kámera.**

A SHORT GRAMMATICAL SKETCH

The best way to learn the grammar of a language is by learning sentences by heart and attempting to form new ones on the same pattern. This is especially useful in a language like Colloquial Arabic, the structure of which is simple and straightforward. In this sketch only such things are explained which cannot be derived from the texts themselves.[1]

The Pronouns

There are two kinds of personal pronouns: those used as subject of the sentence, as in **ana hōn** 'I am here', and those used as object and adjective, as in **shāfni** 'he saw me', **bēti** 'my house'. These object pronouns never stand alone, but are always suffixed to the verb or noun they belong to.

	Subject Form	*Object Form*
I	**ana**	**-ni** 'me', **-i** 'my'
you	**inte**	**-k, -ak**
you (*fem.*)	**inti**	**-ki, -ik**
he	**hūwe, hu**	**-o, -h**
she	**hiye, hi**	**-a, -h, -ha**
we	**nihne**	**-na**
you (*pl.*)	**intu**	**-kon, -kom** (Palestine: **-kum**)
they	**hōm, huma, hinne**	**-hon, -hom** (Palestine: **-hum**)

When two object pronouns come together, the second is not put on to the first, but to the word **iyā-**, e.g. **aɛṭīni iyāh** 'give it to me'.

With all prepositions the object form is used: **li** 'to me', **maɛak** 'with you', **minno** 'from him'.

[1] A more detailed study of one type of Syrian Arabic will be found in G. R. Driver, *A Grammar of the Colloquial Arabic of Syria and Palestine*, Probsthain and Co.

The demonstrative pronouns are **hāda** 'this', *fem.* **hādi,** *pl.* **hādōl,** and **hadāk** 'that', *fem.* **hādik,** *pl.* **hādōlāk (hādōlik).** With the article, **hāda,** etc., coalesces into **hal-,** the last letter of which is assimilated like that of the article.

The relative pronoun is **illi** for all genders and persons. The antecedent of the relative clause must be taken up by a pronoun within that clause: **ir-rizhāl illi shifto,** 'the man whom I saw,' *lit.* 'the man who I saw him'.

The interrogative pronouns are: **mīn** 'who?' (**mīnu** 'who is it?'), **shū, ēsh** 'what?', **ē, āno, āni, ēna** 'which?'

The Noun

Nouns have a singular and a plural. Some nouns have also a dual, denoting a pair, which always ends in **-ēn.**

The plural is formed in many different ways. The correct plural of any noun can only be ascertained from the dictionary.

Nouns are either masculine or feminine. Verbs and adjectives always agree in gender with nouns in the singular, but not always in the plural. The usage in that respect is mainly idiomatic.

Most feminine nouns end in **-e** or **-a.** All adjectives form their feminine by suffixing **-e** (after **ṭ, ḍ, ṣ, Ɛ, ħ, ',** however, an **-a**) to the masculine form: **rizhāl kbīr** 'an old man', **mara kbīre** 'an old woman'.

The definite article is **il-,** after vowels **l-.** There is no indefinite article. Before **t, d, ṭ, ḍ, s, z, sh, zh, ẓ, n,** and **r,** the **l** is assimilated: **ir-rizhāl, id-dēn.**

The Verb

There are three tenses in Arabic: Past, Present, and Future.

In the Past there are two types of verbs, those ending in consonant and those ending in a vowel.

	Ending in Consonant			*Ending in Vowel*	
	packed	descended	went	passed	spoke
I .	**ħazamt**	**nizilt**	**riħt**	**mḍīt**	**ħkēt**
you .	**ħazamt**	**nizilt**	**riħt**	**mḍīt**	**ħkēt**
he .	**ħazam**	**nizil**	**rāħ**	**maḍa**	**ħaka**
she .	**ħazmet**	**nizlet**	**rāħit**	**maḍat**	**ħakat**
we .	**ħazamna**	**nizilna**	**riħna**	**mḍīna**	**ħkēna**
you .	**ħazamtu**	**nziltu**	**riħtu**	**mḍītu**	**ħkētu**
they .	**ħazmu**	**nizlu**	**rāħu**	**maḍu**	**ħaku**

The Present

	write	go	know
I . .	**biktub**	**birūħ**	**baƐrif**
you . .	**btiktub**	**bitrūħ**	**btaƐrif**
you (*fem.*) .	**btíktubi**	**bitrūħi**	**btaƐrfi**
he . .	**biktub**	**birūħ**	**byaƐrif**
she . .	**btiktub**	**bitrūħ**	**btaƐrif**
we . .	**mniktub**	**minrūħ**	**mnaƐrif**
you . .	**btíktubu**	**bitrūħu**	**btaƐrfu**
they . .	**bíktubu**	**birūħu**	**byaƐrfu**

	speak	wait	wash
I . .	**biħki**	**bistanna**	**bitghassil**
you . .	**btiħki**	**btistanna**	**btitghassil**
you (*fem.*) .	**btiħki**	**btistanni**	**btitghassli**
he . .	**biħki**	**bistanna**	**bitghassil**
she . .	**btiħki**	**btistanna**	**btitghassil**

		speak	wait	wash
we	. .	**mniḥki**	**mnistanna**	**mnitghassil**
you	. .	**btiḥku**	**btistannu**	**btitghasslu**
they	. .	**biḥku**	**bistannu**	**bitghasslu**

The present tense is often preceded by **ɛam** or **ɛammāl,** which indicates that the action extends over some time; e.g. **ɛam bi'ra** 'I am in the middle of reading'.

Imperative

write	go	know	speak	wait	wash
iktub	**rūḥ**	**iɛrif**	**iḥki**	**istanna**	**tghassil**
íktubu	**rūḥu**	**íɛrifu**	**iḥku**	**istannu**	**tghasslu**

The Future

		write	go	know
I	. .	**aktub**	**arūḥ**	**aɛrif**
you	. .	**tiktub**	**trūḥ**	**taɛrif**
you (*fem.*)	.	**tíktubi**	**trūḥi**	**taɛrfi**
he	. .	**iktub**	**irūḥ**	**yaɛrif**
she	. .	**tiktub**	**trūḥ**	**taɛrif**
we	. .	**niktub**	**nrūḥ**	**naɛrif**
you	. .	**tíktubu**	**trūḥu**	**taɛrfu**
they	. .	**íktubu**	**irūḥu**	**yaɛrfu**

		speak	wait	wash
I	. .	**eḥki**	**estanna**	**atghassil**
you	. .	**tiḥki**	**tistanna**	**titghassil**

		speak	wait	wash
you (*fem.*)	.	**tiḥki**	**tistanni**	**titghassli**
he	. .	**iḥki**	**istanna**	**itghassil**
she	. .	**tiḥki**	**tistanna**	**titghassil**
we	. .	**niḥki**	**nistanna**	**nitghassil**
you	. .	**tiḥku**	**tistannu**	**titghasslu**
they	. .	**iḥku**	**istannu**	**itghasslu**

The particle **rāḥ** indicates that something happens in the near future; e.g. **rāḥ nākol** 'we are going to eat'.

The formation of the Past- and Present-stems follows certain regular but complicated rules. In this book, the third person singular of the past and future is given of each verb, and should be learnt.

The negative is expressed in Syria by **mā** before the verb (**lā** before imperative): **mā katab** 'he did not write'. In the Lebanon and Palestine, **-sh** (after double consonant **-ish**) is added at the end of the verb: **mā katabsh.** Final short vowels are lengthened before this **-sh :** **mā izhāsh** 'he did not come', **mā biddnāsh** 'we don't want'. In Southern Palestine, the **mā** is often dropped, so that **-sh** is the only sign of the negative.

-sh is used almost everywhere in **mush** 'is not' = **mā hu-sh.**

		Cardinal *Masc.*	Cardinal *Fem.*	Ordinal *Masc.*	Ordinal *Fem.*
١	1	wāh̃id	wah̃de	awwal	ūla, awwale
٢	2	tnēn	tintēn	tāni	tānye
٣	3	tlāte	tlāt	tālit	tālte
٤	4	árbaƐa	arbaƐ	rābiƐ	rābƐa
٥	5	chamse	chams	chāmis	chāmse
٦	6	sitte	sitt	sādis	sādse
٧	7	sabƐa	sabƐ	sābiƐ	sābƐa
٨	8	tmāne	tmān	tāmin	tāmne
٩	9	tisƐa	tisaƐ	tāsiƐ	tāsƐa
١٠	10	Ɛashra	Ɛashr	Ɛāshir	Ɛāshra

From ten onwards, there is only one form for Cardinal and Ordinal, masculine and feminine.

١١	11	h̃idaƐsh	30	tlātīn	٣٠
١٢	12	itnaƐsh	40	arbaƐīn	٤٠
١٣	13	tlattaƐsh	50	chamsīn	٥٠
١٤	14	arbaƐtāsh	60	sittīn	٦٠
١٥	15	chamstaƐsh	70	sabƐīn	٧٠
١٦	16	sittaƐsh	80	tmānīn	٨٠
١٧	17	sabaƐtāsh	90	tisƐīn	٩٠
١٨	18	tmantaƐsh	100	mīye, *cstr.* mīt, *pl.* mi'āt	١٠٠
١٩	19	tisaƐtāsh	1000	alf, *pl.* ālāf	١٠٠٠
٢٠	20	Ɛashrīn	1939	alf u tisaƐ mīye u tisaƐ u tlātīn	١٩٣٩

Some Palestinian forms: 1 **wāh̃ad,** *fem.* **wáh̃ade,** 3 **talāte,** 8 **tamānye.**

After the numbers from 2 to 10, the thing counted stands in the plural, with all numbers above 10 in the singular: **sabƐat 'urūsh,** but **Ɛashrīn 'irsh.**

Before nouns, the masculine numbers under 10 take a **t** at the end: **chamse,** but **chamsit 'urūsh,** and the numbers from 11–19 take **ir** at the end: **chamstaƐsh,** but **chamstaƐshir 'irsh.**

SHORT PHRASES

Shū hāda ?	What is this ?
Mīnu hāda ?	Who is this ?
Shū ismak ?	What is your name ?
Kīf hālak ?	How are you ?
Ilhamdillā, mabṣūṭ	Very well, thank you.
Mush lāzim	It is not necessary.
Mā Ɛalēsh	It does not matter.
Mā fīsh	There is not.
Mamnūnak	Thank you. (I am obliged to you.)
Shū biddak ?	What do you want ?
Mā fhimt	I did not understand.
Ṭayyib	All right.
Shū fī zhdīd ?	What is the news ?
Ēmta tīzhi ?	When will you come ?
Mā bighdir	I cannot.
Hāda ṣah̃īh̃	That is right.
'Addēsh hāda ?	How much is it ?
Hāda ghāli	This is too expensive.
AƐṭi bālak	Be careful.
Bikaffi	That is enough.

Ziyāra	*A Visit*
Hāda ṣāh̃bi il-Chawāzha Smith	This is my friend, Mr. Smith.
Mnitsharraf	Pleased to meet you. (We are honoured.)
Tfaḍḍal isterīh̃, yā Chawāzha	Take a seat, please.
Kattar chērak	Thank you.
Il-Chawāzha min wēn ?	From where are you ?

Ana Inglīzi	I am an Englishman.
Min ēna balad ? . . .	From which town ?
Min London	From London.
Ṣār lak midde fi Sūriya ? .	Have you been long in Syria ?
La', ana hōn zhimɛatēn bass .	No, I have been here for a fortnight only.
Tfaḍḍal la 'ahwe . . .	Have some coffee, please.
Sallim īdēk	(May God preserve your hands.) *Said on receiving the cup.*
'Ahwe dāyme . . .	(May you always have coffee.) *Said on putting down cup.*
Sharraftūna	(You have honoured us.) *Answer to the above.*
Ħaḍrtak bteħki ɛárabi kwoyyis	You speak Arabic well.
Istaghfurullā, beħki 'alīl .	(May God forgive me[1]), I speak it a little.
Ṣār il-wa'et ɛaleyyi . .	It is getting late.
Bista'zin	With your permission.
Kīf, lāzim trūħ ? Halla' zhīt !.	What, you must go ? You have just come.
Ana mitkaddir. Bass malzūm .	I am sorry. I have to go.
Sharrifna tāni marra, insha'alla	Come again (if God wills[2]).
Maɛ is-salāme ! . . .	God Speed !
Chāṭirkon !	(For your sake !) *Answer to the above.*

[1] *To be said when one is praised.*
[2] *Used whenever speaking of the future.*

CONVERSATIONS

1. Il-wuṣūl ila Bērūt

Maryam. Ilħamdillā, wiṣilna !

Elyās. Ilħamdillā ! Ṣār chamsa u Ɛashrin sene min wa'et illi kint fi Bērūt. Kīf bitshūfha, yā Ħabīb ?

Ħabīb. Mā aħlāha ! Balad mahūle, maƐ izh-zhibāl warāha. Lāzim nḍill ktīr fi l-wābūr 'abl mā ninzil Ɛa l-mīna ?

Elyās. Ṭawwil bālak, yā ibni : mā wa'af il-wābūr baƐd, u ikūn fī shughl bi l-bazabōrt u il-Ɛafsh u ma'mūrīn il-mīna. Ɛa l-a'all, lāzim nistanna sāƐa au aktar.

Ħabīb. Ana mā nimt ṭūl il-lēl. Kān shōb ktīr u bāli mashghūl bi Sūrīya u kill hāda illi ashūf fīha u 'arāyibna.

Maryam. Nistafīd min haz-ziyāra u ninbisiṭ kamān, in-sha'alla.

Elyās. Ē, mazbūṭ. Mazhbūr ashūf nās hōn li sh-shughl u akūn mashghūl ktīr. Ā ! Yū'af il-wābūr baƐd shwē. Ɛidd is-ṣanādī', yā Ħabīb !

Ħabīb. Fī sabƐa. Killhon hōn.

Elyās. Hāy il-Ɛattālīn. . . . Hē, Ɛattāl, chod hādōl ish-shanṭāt !

Il-Ɛattāl. NaƐam, yā Sīdi. Killon tábaƐak ? Mā bi'dir-sh ħmilon [1] waħdi. Azhīb tēni [2] wāħid. Tūzhad kill shī fi l-gumruk, yā Sīdi.

[1] For aħmilhon. [2] For tāni.

1. Arrival at Beirut

Mary. At last we are here.

Elias. Yes. It is twenty-five years since I was last in Beirut. What do you think of it, Habib ? [1]

Habib. It is a fine town, with the mountains behind it. Have we long to remain on the boat before disembarking ?

Elias. Have patience, my boy ; the boat has not even stopped yet. And we have passports, luggage, and port officials to attend to before we land. We will have to wait an hour or more at least.

Habib. I didn't sleep at all last night ; what with the heat and thinking about Syria and what I would see there and our relatives.

Mary. Our stay here will do us good, and I am sure we will enjoy ourselves as well.

Elias. Yes, that is true. I have some people to see here on business matters and I'll be fairly busy. Ah ! the boat will soon be stopping now. Habib, count the cases, will you.

Habib. There are seven ; they're all here.

Elias. Here are the porters. Hi ! porter, take these cases.

The Porter. Yes, sir. Are these all yours ? I can't carry them all by myself. I'll fetch another porter. You will find everything at the customs, sir.

[1] *Lit.* How do you see it ?

2. Il-Gumruk

Il-Gumrukzhi. Shū fī maƐakōn ?

Elyās. Mā máƐana shī li l-gumruk . . . Ɛam ba'ul lak : mā Ɛanna shī, illa tyāb u lawāzim li s-safar, u kām hadīye li aṣḥāb tabaƐna.

Il-Gumrukzhi. Lāzim tiftaḥ iṣ-ṣanādī' ḥatta nikshif Ɛalēhon. Mā bīṣīr bala ! Lā budd minno.

Elyās. 'Ult ilak : mā fī shī li l-kashef.

Maryam. Lā taƐayyaṭ, yā Elyās ! Iftaḥ iṣ-ṣanādī', u farzhīh !

Elyās. Ṭayyib, chōd hāda ! . . . Ēsh biddak halla' ? Il-bazabōrt ? Hāy il-bazabōrt !

Il-Ma'mūr. AƐṭīni iyāh !

Elyās. Lēsh ? Inte shifto. Shū lāzim tāchdo ?

Il-Ma'mūr. Lāzim íṭbaƐo. BaƐṭīk iyāh baƐd da'īya.

Elyās. Alḥamdillā ! Chalaṣna min hādōl. Kill il-ma'mūrīn mitl baƐḍōn, yā fi Bērūt, yā fi Nyū-Yōrk. TaƐa, rāḥ nākol shī. Ana zhōƐān. Tā nrūḥ Ɛa restōrān Ɛárabi 'arīb min hōn. Barīd Ḥabīb iṭƐam ṭabīch Sūri ha'ī'i. . . . Yā Ɛattāl, waddi hash-shanṭāt la-Ɛarabīye !

3. Fi l-maṭƐam

Elyās. Hāda hūwe l-maṭƐam illi kinna nfattesh Ɛalēh. Tā nfūt u nākol shī.

Ṣāḥib il-MaṭƐam. Ahlan u sahlan !

Elyās. Ṣabāḥ il-chēr, yā Abu SaƐīd ! Mā btaƐrifnī-sh ? Mā btitzakkir haṣ-ṣibyān illi kānu bitƐashshu Ɛandkon kill masa yōm il-chamīs ? Kān 'abl il-ḥarb.

2. The Customs

The Official. Have you anything to declare ?

Elias. We have nothing to declare. . . . I am telling you, we have nothing except clothes and things for the journey, and some presents for our friends !

The Official. You must open these cases so that we can examine them. That can't be helped. It must be.

Elias. I told you already, we have nothing to declare !

Mary. Don't get excited, Elias ! Open the cases and let them have a look.

Elias. All right, take them ! . . . What do you want now ? My passport ? There is my passport.

The Official. Give it to me !

Elias. Why, you have seen it, haven't you ? Why must you take it ?

The Official. I must stamp it. I'll let you have it back in a moment.

Elias. Thank God, we have finished with them. All officials are the same, whether in Beirut or in New York. Come on, we will have something to eat. I am hungry. Let's go to an Arab restaurant near here. I want Habib to taste some real Syrian cooking. Porter, take those cases to a cab !

3. In the Restaurant

Elias. This is the restaurant we were looking for. Let's go in and have a bite.

The Proprietor. Good morning.[1]

Elias. Good morning, Abu Said. Don't you know me ? You remember those young men who used to dine here every Thursday evening, don't you ? That was before the war.

[1] *Lit.* (You have come to your) people and easy circumstances ! *Greeting used in receiving a guest.*

Ṣāḥib il-Maṭɛam. Ā! Haḍrtak Chawāzha Elyās Haddād, ibn Faḍlō Bē? Lā!
Elyās. Naɛam. Hāda hūwe bzāto.
Ṣāḥib il-Maṭɛam. Ahlan u sahlan, mīt ahlan u sahlan! Sharraftūna! Ēmta sharraftu Bērūt?
Elyās. Niḥne hōn nuṣṣ sāɛa bass.
Ṣāḥib il-Maṭɛam. Tfáḍḍalu la hōn. Sharraftūna! Shū amrkon, yā Chawāzha? Hal-ma'ɛad biwāfi' is-sitt?

Maryam. ɛa t-tamām.
Ṣāḥib il-Maṭɛam. Shū bit'āmru? ɛanna ṭabīche ɛarabīye u franzhīye.
Ḥabīb. Mā minrīd franzhīye.
Elyās. Skōt ba'a, yā Ḥabīb, challīh ikammil! Byaɛrif shughlo.
Ṣāḥib il-Maṭɛam. ɛanna ɛizhzhe, u kūsa maḥshīye, u kūsa banaḍōra, u yabra', u zhi', u bādnzhān, u kifte, u kbēbe. Wa ɛanna kamān ḥalawiyāt, il-aḥsan fi Bērūt, mitl ba'lāwa, u knēfīye, u maɛmūl, u zingol, u ghērhon.

Ḥabīb. Mā ɛandhon mzháddara?
Ṣāḥib il-Maṭɛam. Maɛlūm, yā Chawāzha.
Elyās. ɛāl! Lāzimna shī mghazzi. Niḥne zhōɛānīn ktīr. Mā fṭirna il-yōm. Zhīb lina rizz u kbēbe, u baɛdēn mnāchod ghēr shī.

Ṣāḥib il-Maṭɛam. ɛa r-rās u il-ɛēn! Taḥt amrak, yā Chawāzha.

The Proprietor. Ah! You are Mr. Elias Haddad, the son of Fadlo Bey? No, surely not!
Elias. Yes, the same.
The Proprietor. Welcome, welcome! What an honour! When did you arrive in Beirut? [1]
Elias. We have been here just half an hour.
The Proprietor. Please, sit down over here! What an honour! What would you like, sir? Does this place suit you, madam?
Mary. Perfectly.
The Proprietor. What would you like to order? We have both Arabic and European dishes?
Habib. We don't want European dishes.
Elias. Be quiet, Habib, let him finish. He knows his job.

The Proprietor. We have omelettes, stuffed vegetable marrow, vegetable marrow with tomatoes, stuffed vine leaves, stuffed neck of veal, aubergines, meat-balls, and roast meat. We have also the best sweets in Beirut, such as almond cakes, vermicelli pastry, almond pastry, *zingol*, and others.
Habib. Haven't they got rice and lentils?
The Proprietor. Of course we have, sir.
Elias. Very good, then. We want something nourishing. We are very hungry. We didn't have any breakfast to-day. Bring us some rice and roast meat, and afterwards we shall have something else.
The Proprietor. Very well, sir. As you wish.

[1] *Lit.* When have you honoured Beirut (with your presence)?

4. Liqa ṣāhib

(*Bimru' rizhāl min zhambhon.*)

Ir-Rizhāl. Ismaḥ li, yā Chawāzha, ana biftikir baƐrif Haḍrtak; il-Chawāzha Elyās il-Haddād ?

Elyās. NaƐam, ana Elyās il-Haddād. Haḍrtak btaƐrifni ?

Ir-Rizhāl. Ana Hanna il-Ɛakkāwi.

Elyās. Hanna il-Ɛakkāwi ? Ahlan u sahlan! Márḥaba! MaƐlūm baƐrfak. Tfaḍḍal laƐanna! Ɛod[1] lak, yā Ɛazīzi. Ṣār tlātīn sene mā lā'ētak. Kīf il-ḥāl ?

Hanna. Ilḥamdillā, bi chēr. U kīf ṣāyir fīkon ?

Elyās. Nishkur Alla, mabṣūṭīn. Ɛam btishtighil hōn ?

Hanna. NaƐam. Ana il'ān bidīr maḥall il-marḥūm wālidna. U niḥne nistaurid bḍāƐa 'uṭun, u ṣūf, u ghazal min maḥall achi fi Manchester. U inte riḥt la Amērika, mush hēk ?

Elyās. NaƐam, riḥna 'abl zamān. U mashghūlīn bi bēƐ bḍāyiƐ Sūrīya u ish-shar' bi zh-zhimle. U il-yōm wiṣilna la Bērūt. Biddna nḍill fi Sūrīya shahrēn tlāte. Ibni Habīb Ɛammāl idros bi ṭ-ṭibb fi Nyū-York.

Ṣāḥib il-MaṭƐam. Ṣabāḥ il-chēr. Shū amr il-Chawāzha il-yōm ?

Hanna. Zhīb li kifte u ruzz. Ana bākol hōn kill yōm, la'in bēti baƐīd ktīr mn il-balad, u mā bighdir irzhaƐ Ɛa l-bēt li l-ghada. Lāzim tsharrifūna killkon, yā Elyās.

Elyās. Mnitsharrif, Ɛan 'arīb, insha'alla.

[1] For 'Ɛod.

4. Meeting a Friend

(*A man passes by their table.*)

The Man. Excuse me, but I believe I know you. Are you Elias Haddad ?

Elias. Yes, I am Elias Haddad. You know me ?

The Man. I am John Akkawi.

Elias. John Akkawi! Welcome; what a pleasure! Of course I know you. Please do come and sit at our table. It must be about thirty years since I last saw you. How are you ?

John. Very well, thank you. And how are you getting on ?

Elias. Not too bad, thanks. Are you in business here ?

John. Yes; I am now managing my late father's firm. We import cotton, wool, and yarn goods from my brother's business house in Manchester. You went to America, didn't you ?

Elias. Yes, quite a long time ago. I have a wholesale business in Syrian and Eastern products. We arrived to-day in Beirut. We want to stay in Syria for two or three months. My son Habib is studying medicine in New York.

The Proprietor. Good morning, sir. What would you like to-day ?

John. Give me meat-balls and rice. I take my meals here every day because I live too far from town and can't go home for lunch. Elias, you must all come and visit us.

Elias. With pleasure. We'll come soon, I hope.

5. Hadis

Chēralla. Kīf kān is-safar fi l-baħr ? Kān iṭ-ṭa's kwoyyis ?

Elyās. Iṭ-ṭa's kān laṭīf ṭūl is-safar, illa fi tālit yōm min Nyū-Yōrk ; wa'aƐ zóbaƐa shdīde.

Zarīfe. Kuntu murṭāħīn bi l-wābūr ?

Maryam. Kinna murtāħīn ktīr, u iṭ-ṭaƐām min aħsan shikl. U mḍīna l-wa'et bi l-laƐb u in-nizha.[1] U il-misāfrīn nās awādim.

Zarīfe. Ana bħibb asāfir bi l-baħr ; lamma ruħna la Maṣr 'abl sintēn, imbasaṭna ktīr.

Elyās. Kīf ħāl is-sū', yā Chēralla ?

Chēralla. Ɛala ħālo. Mush baṭṭāl, il-ħamdillā.

Elyās. Kīf iz-zirāƐa u il-ħāṣlāt has-sene ?

Chēralla. Nishkur Alla. Nās ktīrīn bistaƐamlu il'ān mākīnāt u ālāt zirāƐīye min āchir ṭarz, u shifna taħsīn fī maħṣūlātna u mantūzhātna.

Zarīfe. SmiƐna ħkāyāt Ɛazhībe Ɛan Nyū-Yōrk. Balad fīha ta'rīban sabƐa malāyīn nafs. Ṣaħīħ hāda ?

Maryam. NaƐam, balad Ɛazīme. Nirkeb fi trēnāt taħt il-arḍ u fō' ish-shawāriƐ. U fī dakākīn fō' il-Ɛāde kbār, u tyātrō'āt u sīnemāwāt mashhūrīn, u ish-shawāriƐ wasƐīn u ṭwāl, u il-mabāni Ɛālyīn ħatta chamsīn u sittīn ṭābi'.

[1] Pronounce niz-ha.



Zahle

5. Conversation

Khairallah. What kind of a journey did you have ? Did you have good weather ?

Elias. The weather was fine the whole of the journey except for the third day out from New York when there was a violent storm.

Zarife. Were you comfortable on the boat ?

Mary. We were very comfortable and the food was excellent. We passed the time quite enjoyably. Our fellow passengers were nice people.

Zarife. I like travelling by sea. When we went by the sea route to Egypt two years ago we enjoyed ourselves.

Elias. How is business, Khairallah ? [1]

Khairallah. So-so [2]; not too bad.

Elias. How are the crops this year ?

Khairallah. Good, thank God. More people are making use of the latest types of machinery and agricultural implements. And the improvement in the crops is noticeable.

Zarife. We have heard some wonderful stories about New York. Is it true that there are some seven million inhabitants ?

Mary. Yes. It is a great city. We travel in trains under ground and trains that run above the streets. There are large shops and famous cinemas and theatres. The streets are wide and long, while the buildings rise to fifty and sixty storeys.

[1] *Lit.* How is the state of the market ?
[2] *Lit.* In its (former) state.

6. Bayyāع il-kutub

Zaki. Kīf il-ḥāl, yā Abu Hāshim? Shū fī ɛandak min kutub? Ibn ɛammi biddo ishtiri shī minnak. ɛandak shī erchīṣ min shāno?

Abu Hāshim. Taḥt amrak, yā Sīdi. Sharrifni! ɛandi kutub min kill ashkāl. Hazh-zhimɛa zhāni mi'dār kbīr min Maṣr, u fīh kutub nādra u 'adīme, mzhalladīn u matbūɛīn fō' il-ɛāde. Tfáḍḍalu, fūtu la zhūwa, tā afarzhīkon. Hāy kitāb állafo id-doktōr Ṭaha Husēn. ɛinwāno *Il-Ayyām.* Hāda kitāb mashhūr, u mtarzham bi kill lughāt il-Ifranzh. U kazālik ɛandi tāni wāḥid, *Al-adab izh-zhāhili.* Hāda shī zhdīd min nōɛo. U kamān, iza kint bitrīd, ɛandi mzhalladēn min *Riḥlat Ibn Baṭūṭa.* Hāda erchīṣ bi n-nihāye, támano itnaɛashir frank bass.

Habīb. Ana mā barīd shī min hādōl. Biddi kitāb shiɛr.

Abu Hāshim. Shiɛr, yā Sīdi? Ṭayyib! ɛandi shī kwoyyis ktīr. Shī zhōhar! Abyāt Shōqi Bē, amīr ish-shúɛara.

Habīb. 'Addēsh ḥa''o?

Abu Hāshim. ɛashrīn frank bass. Wa hāda balāsh. Bibīɛo bi hēk it-taman bass ɛala chāṭrak. Wallāhi, biswa chamsīn frank ɛa l-a'all.

7. Ir-Rādyo (Il-Lāsilki)

Habīb. Shū bitsāwi, yā Zaki? Shū 'aṣdak? Challīh! Biddna nismaɛ.

Zaki. Ṭawwil bālak, yā achi! Bazharrib ana: biddna London, mush hēk?

Habīb. Ēsh bitrīd? Il-izāɛa min London hīye ɛala mauzhe 'aṣīre, wa lā ṭawīle.

6. At the Booksellers

Zaki. How are you, Abu Hashim? What books have you got? My cousin here wants to buy something from you. Have you anything cheap for him?

Abu Hashim. At your service, sir. You honour me. I have books of all kinds. Only this week I received a large consignment from Egypt, including some rare and antique books, exceptionally well bound and printed. Please, come inside so that I can show them to you. Here is a book by[1] Dr. Taha Husain, entitled *The Days.* This is a famous book and has been translated into all European languages. I also have another one of his books, *Pre-Islamic Culture.* That is something quite novel. Then, if you are interested, I have here two volumes of *Ibn Batuta's Travels,* at an extremely low price, only twelve francs.

Habib. I don't want any of these. I want a book of poetry.

Abu Hashim. Poetry, sir? Splendid! I have something very good. A real jewel! Verses by Shauqi Bey, prince of poets.

Habib. How much is it?

Abu Hashim. Only twenty francs. That is giving it away. I am really selling it at that price specially to you. Why, it is worth at least fifty francs!

7. The Wireless

Habib. What are you doing, Zaki? What is the idea[2]? Leave it alone, we want to listen in.

Zaki. Have patience! I am trying my best. We want to get London, don't we?

Habib. Well then? The Arabic programme from London is on the short wave and not the long wave.

[1] *Lit.* Which wrote it, *i.e.* which was written by.
[2] *Lit.* What is your intention?

Zaki. Ā . . . ismaƐ!

Ir-Rādyo. . . .[1] wa tantahi l-ħáflatu l-mūṣīqíyatu bi qíṭƐatēn mina l-ustādhi Sāmi sh-Shawa, amīri l-kamānja. . . . Wa l'āna, yā áyyuha l-mustamiƐūna l-kirām, natlu ilaikum náshrata l-achbār. . . . Wáṣala ila l-Iskandaríyati qā́diman min Urubba bi l-bā́chirati *N-Nīl* ad-duktūr Muħámmadu l-Miṣri l-ichtiṣāṣi sh-shahīr. Fa kāna fi stiqbā́lihi bi raṣīfi l-mīnā'i jamhūrun kabīrun mina l-aṭibbā'i wa l-aƐyāni wa ṭ-ṭálabati wa dhawī r-ra'yi, yataqáddamuhum ṣā́ħibu l-Ɛízzati d-duktūr Aħmad Ṣābir Bē. Wa qad ṣā́faħahumu d-duktūr Muħammad shā́kiran lahum ħusna stiqbā́lihim. . . .

Habīb. Lēsh mā biħku bi l-lughat il-Ɛāmmīye? Biṣīr ahyan.

Zaki. Is-sabab hāda: ghayithon fi hal-izāƐāt intishār il-barāmizh fi kill aṭrāf il-Ɛālam il-Ɛárabi, min a'ṣāh ila a'ṣāh. U iza azāƐu fi l-lughat il-Ɛāmmīye is-sūrīye másalan, mā bífhamu il-Mghērbe, u iza azāƐu bi l-lughat il-Ɛāmmīye fi Maṣr, mā bífhamu ṭayyib nās fi Baghdād, u bi l-Ɛaks.

Habīb. Fa'izan, yaƐni, mazhbūr kill wāħid bifham in-Náħawi, mush hēk?

8. It-Telefōn

Elyās. Ālō. . . .

Mīn? . . .

Fahīm Qaṣṣāb? Ahlan u sahlan! Mīt ahlan u sahlan! Kīf il-ħāl, yā achi? . . .

NaƐam. . . .

[1] The broadcast is in Literary Arabic. In the following lines, th and dh are the sounds in English *thick* and *that*, *j* the sound in *jaw*. The words occurring in the broadcast are not included in the vocabulary.

Zaki. Ah! Listen!

The Radio. . . . and now we will conclude our musical programme with two items by Professor Sami Shawa, the violin virtuoso . . . and now, dear listeners, we shall read the news bulletin . . . 'The famous specialist, Dr. Mohammad Misri, has arrived in Alexandria from Europe in the steamer *Nile*. At the quay he was received by a large number of physicians, public men, students, and scholars, at their head His Excellency Dr. Ahmed Sabir Bey. Dr. Mohammed made a speech and thanked them for the reception . . .'

Habib. Why don't they speak colloquial Arabic? That would be much easier.

Zaki. The reason is this: The purpose of these broadcasts is the diffusion of programmes to all parts of the Arabic world, from one end to another. Now if they would broadcast, for instance, in the Syrian colloquial, the Moroccans would not understand it. And if they broadcast in the Egyptian dialect, people in Baghdad would be unable to understand it properly, and vice versa.

Habib. That means that everybody has to try and understand literary Arabic, is that not so?

8. On the 'phone

Elias. Hullo. . . .

Who is that? . . .

Fahim Qassab? Welcome, a hundred times welcome! How are you?

Yes. . . .

Ēmta wiṣilna ? Ṣār lina hōn zhimƐa. Shū l-chabar Ɛandak ? . . .

Alḥamdillā. . . .

Shū hāda ? Lā ! Ṣaḥīḥ ? Yā salām ! Miflis, Ibrāhīm Ɛauni ? Yā chsāra !

'Ul li, yā achi, kīf il-ḥaṣīde Ɛandkon ? . . .

Baṭṭāla ! . . .

Maryam. Mīn Ɛam biḥki, yā Elyās ?

Elyās. Fahīm 'Aṣṣāb.

Maryam. Fahīm 'Aṣṣāb ? Mīnu hāda ? Ana mā baƐrafū-sh.

Elyās. Hūwe . . . istanni shwēye, yā ḥabībtī, hū biḥākīni, u mā Ɛando wa'et ktīr. Ɛām biḥki mn il-maktab tábaƐo . . .

NaƐam. . . .

Ṭayyib. . . .

Ahlan u sahlan ! Tfaḍḍal laƐanna, yā achi, sharrifna hal-lēle. . . .

Ē, maẓbūṭ, bīwāfi'na, mnīḥ—u achūk Yūsef kamān. Ṭayyib, ṭayyib. . . . Lilmultaqa, yā achi, maƐ is-salāme.

Maryam. Bīzhu hal-lēle ? Ṭayyib. Āno 'Aṣṣāb hāda ? Hāda hūwe 'Aṣṣāb Ɛazhmi min Halab ?

Elyās. La', bēt 'Aṣṣāb Ɛazhmi mush mauzhūd il'ān fī Sūrīya. Hāzharu Ɛa Zhnūb Amērika 'abl zamān. Fahīm 'Aṣṣāb min bēt 'Aṣṣāb Homṣi, u Fahīm u achūh hinne shúraka fī Ṭrāblus. Ɛandon fấbrika. Miskīn hāda Ibrāhīm Ɛauni ! Kān ṣāḥib milyōn, u il-yōm—ṭifrān ! Ana bishfa' Ɛalēh. Alla isāƐdo ! Hazīt ! Hēk id-dinye. Wēn Habīb ?

Maryam. Rāḥ ishimm il-hawa, hūwe u Zaki. BírzhaƐu baƐd iḍ-ḍuhur. Rāḥu Ɛa s-sū' kamān.

When did we arrive ? We have been here a week. What is the news about yourself ? . . .

Praise be to God. . . .

What ? No ! Really ? Good gracious. Ibrahim Auni bankrupt ? What a pity ! Tell me, how is the harvest in your place ? . . .

Not too good. . . .

Mary. Who is that speaking, Elias ?

Elias. Fahim Qassab.

Mary. Fahim Qassab ? Who is that ? I don't know him.

Elias. He is . . . but wait a moment, my dear, he is just speaking. He hasn't much time. He speaks from his office. . . .

Yes. . . .

All right. . . .

Certainly ! You are welcome. Give us the pleasure to-night. . . .

All right, that suits us very well—and your brother Joseph, too. Very good. Au revoir. Good-bye.

Mary. Are they coming to-night ? Good. Which Qassab is that ? Is that Qassab Ajmi of Aleppo ?

Elias. No, the family of Qassab Ajmi does not live in Syria any longer. They went to South America some time ago. Fahim Qassab is one of the Qassabs of Homs. Fahim and his brother are partners in Tripoli, where they have a factory. . . . Poor fellow, that Ibrahim Auni ! He was a millionaire once, but to-day he is a poor man. I am sorry for him. May God help him, poor fellow ! Well, such is the world. Where is Habib ?

Mary. He has gone for a walk with Zaki. They will be back in the afternoon. They have gone to the market, too.

9. Is-Sīnema

(*Elyās u Maryam wā'fīn 'uddām sīnema.*)

Maryam. Shūf, yā Elyās, ɛam byáɛriḍu hōn film ɛárabi. Hāy iɛlān : 'Il-Warda il-Bēḍa, il-film il-áwwal in-nāṭiq bi l-lughat il-ɛarabīya.' Tā nfūt, nshūfo. Ana mā shift film bi l-ɛárabi ábadan. Mā biḍurr iza wiṣilna ɛa Zaḥle mitɛawwa'īn shwē.

Elyās. Naɛam, bḥibb ashūf hal-film. Ana mā biɛta'id inno bīṣīr aḥsan min aflāmna fi Amērika. Walākin biftikir ikūn mnīḥ. Emm Kultūm ashhar mghannīye fi sh-shar' killo, u hīye bitshachchiṣ fi hal-film.

(*Bīfūtu is-sīnema.*)

Elyās. Ēmta btibda il-ḥafle t-tānye ?

Il-Mustachdam. Baɛd ɛasht da'āyi', yā Sīdi.

Elyās. 'Addēsh ḥa'' il-ma'ɛad ?

Il-Mustachdam. Ɛanna bi tlāt 'urūsh u nuṣṣ, u bi chamse, u bi ɛashra, u itnaɛshir 'irsh u nuṣṣ.

Elyās. Il-ma'āɛid bi ɛasht 'urūsh taḥt yā fō' ?

Il-Mustachdam. Fō', yā Sīdi, ɛa l-wara.

Elyās. Fa'izan, aɛṭīni itnēn bi itnaɛashir 'irsh u nuṣṣ. Bībīɛ sagāyir hōn ?

Il-Mustachdam. Bībīɛu is-sagāyir zhūwa. Hāda bīsāwi chamsa u ɛashrīn 'irsh, min faḍlak.

Elyās. Bti'dar tṣarríf li [1] chams līrāt wara' ?

Il-Mustachdam. Ɛa r-rās, yā Sīdi. Hāy arbaɛ līrāt u chamsa u sabɛīn 'irsh. Yā Mḥammad, dill il-Chawāzha u is-Sitt ɛa l-ma'āɛid !

[1] See footnote to conversation 18.

9. At the Cinema

(*Elias and Mary are standing outside a cinema.*)

Mary. Look, Elias, they are showing an Arabic film here. There is the announcement : 'The White Rose—first talking-film in Arabic.' [1] Let us go in and see it. I have never seen an Arabic film. It doesn't matter if we do get to Zahle a little late.

Elias. Certainly, I should also like to see this film, though I do not think it will be as good as [2] our American films. Still, it might be quite good. Umm Kulthum, one of the most celebrated singers in the whole of the Near East, is starred in it.

(*They enter the cinema.*)

Elias. When does the second performance begin ?

Cashier. In ten minutes.

Elias. How much are the seats ?

Cashier. We have seats at three and a half, five, ten, and twelve and a half piastres.

Elias. Are the ten-piastre seats downstairs or upstairs ?

Cashier. Upstairs, sir, at the back.

Elias. Then let us have two tickets at twelve and a half piastres, please. Do you sell cigarettes here ?

Cashier. Cigarettes are on sale inside. That will be twenty-five piastres, please.

Elias. Can you change me a five-pound note ?

Cashier. Certainly, sir. Here are four pounds and seventy-five piastres. Muhammad, show the lady and gentleman to their seats.

[1] *Lit.* film talking in Arabic.
[2] *Lit.* better than.

10. Fi t-trēn

(*Elyās rākib bi t-trēn la sh-Shām, u maƐo tāzhir Hálabi.*)

It-Tāzhir. Ṣabāḣ il-chēr, yā Efendi.
Elyās. YisƐid ṣabāḣak. Ēmta mnūṣal la sh-Shām ?

It-Tāzhir. BaƐd sāƐa u nuṣṣ ; mit'achchir il-yōm aktar min nuṣṣ sāƐa.
Elyās. Dāyman hēk ?
It-Tāzhir. La', mū [1] dāyman ; walākin hal-iyyām aghlab in-nās bīsāfru bi s-siyāra. Hāda asraƐ shwē. Ḣaḍrtak min Bērūt ?
Elyās. NaƐam, bass ana mush sākin fi Bērūt. Ana ṣifyān fi Nyū-York min middet chamsa u Ɛashrīn sene u ana hōn li z-ziyāra.
It-Tāzhir. Ṣaḣīḣ ? Ana Hálabi l-aṣl, u mā barūḣ barrāt Ḣalab illa marra marrtēn bi s-sene, la Bērūt u ish-Shām. 'Abl il-ḣarb kint asāfir ktīr, baƐrif Istambūl u Maṣr u Bārīs u London. Il-yōm, ilḣamdillā, ana mabṣūṭ fi báladi. Il-ach rāḣ ti'Ɛod zamān fi sh-Shām ?

Elyās. La', yōmēn tlāte bass. Rāḣ ashūf zbūn, ismo SaƐdo Ḍabbāgh. Ḣaḍrtak btaƐrfo ?

It-Tāzhir. Aiwa baƐrfo. Rāḣ tshárrif Ḣalab kamān ?

Elyās. Bīzhūz, insha'alla. Iza kān Ɛandi wa'et.
It-Tāzhir. Mnīḣ. Wa't mā bitkūn fi Ḣalab, tfaḍḍal laƐanna, u sharrifna shī lēle. Minkūn masrūrīn. Ismi NaƐīm Ɛawwād, bi zh-Zhamīlīye.
Elyās. Kattar chērak. Insha'alla bitsharrif laƐandkon.

[1] North-Syrian form for mush.



The Lebanon

10. In a Train

(*Elias is going by train to Damascus. In the same compartment is a merchant from Aleppo.*)

The Merchant. Good morning, sir.

Elias. Good morning to you. When do we arrive in Damascus ?

The Merchant. In an hour and a half. We are half an hour late to-day.

Elias. Is it always like this ?

The Merchant. Oh no, not always. These days, though, most people travel by coach ; that's a little quicker. Are you from Beirut ?

Elias. Yes, but I don't live there. I have been settled in New York twenty-five years now. I am here on a visit.

The Merchant. Really ? I am from Aleppo, and hardly ever leave my town, except once or twice a year when I go to Beirut and Damascus. Before the War I used to travel a good deal. I know Istanbul, Cairo, Paris, and London. To-day, though, I am quite satisfied to stay in my native town. Will you be staying long in Damascus ?

Elias. No, only for two or three days. I am going to see a customer of mine. His name is Sa'do Dabbagh. Do you know him ?

The Merchant. Yes, I know him. Will you also be going to Aleppo ?

Elias. Possibly, if I have the time.

The Merchant. Good. Whenever you are in Aleppo, visit us some evening. We shall be delighted to see you. My name is Na'im Awwad, in the Jamiliye Quarter.

Elias. Thank you. I hope to have the pleasure.

11. Zaki birūḥ la 'Udes

Zaki. Biddak tīzhi maƐi la 'Udes, yā Ḥabīb ?

Ḥabīb. La 'Udes ? NaƐam ! Ṭūl Ɛumri marghūbi azūr Falasṭīn u il-'Udes. Walākin shū ṣār ? Kīf bīkūn innak trūḥ la 'Udes ?

Zaki. Mudīr maḥallna bīrīd yaƐmil kuntrāto maƐ shirke Inglīzīye fi 'Udes, u bibƐatni bḥēs inni baƐrif eḥki Inglīzi. Ana ishtaghalt fi Ḥēfa sintēn u tƐallamt il-lugha hōnīk.

Ḥabīb. Ɛāl ! Ēmta bitsāfir ?

Zaki. Minsāfir Ɛala bukra, is-sāƐa Ɛáshara, u niksir fi 'Udes zhimƐa zhimƐatēn. Ana mā akūn mashghūl ṭūl il-wa'et, u insha'alla ndūr shwē sawa fi l-bilād. Iza mā kān Ɛandi wa'et, mauzhūdīn baƐḍ aṣḥābi u bīrāf'ūk ḥawalē il-bilād. Fa'izan, shū l-ḥaki ? Bitrīd tīzhi maƐi ?

Ḥabīb. Bḥibb arūḥ maƐak min kill 'albi. Lākin lāzim ista'zin min wāldi. Halla' zhāi.

Elyās. Kīf, yā Zaki ? RizhiƐt bakīr mn ish-shughl, mush hēk ? Shū ṣār ? Ɛazalūk ?

Zaki. La', yā Ɛammi. Barūḥ la 'Udes fi ṣ-ṣubḥ. Ɛandi shughl hōnīk, u bḥibb āchod maƐi Ḥabīb li l-firzhe. Bitrīd taƐṭīh izn īzhi maƐi ?

Elyās. Ṭayyib, challīh irūḥ maƐak. Lākin dīr bālak maƐo. Hū mush mitƐawwid bi hal-bilād, u fī chaṭar Ɛa ṭ-ṭarī' fi hal-iyyām. Rūḥ, yā Ḥabīb, u 'il li emmak teḥzom lak shī awāƐi li s-safar. U ana aƐṭik baƐḍ makātīb min shān aṣḥāb tabaƐna fi Yāfa.

11. Zaki goes to Jerusalem

Zaki. Habib, would you like to come with me to Jerusalem ?

Habib. To Jerusalem ? Yes ; I have always wanted to visit Jerusalem. But what has happened ? How comes it that you are going to Jerusalem ?

Zaki. The manager of our firm wants to make a contract with an English business house in Jerusalem, and he is sending me because I can speak English. I worked two years in Haifa and learned the language there.

Habib. Fine ! When are you leaving ?

Zaki. We are leaving to-morrow morning at ten o'clock. We will stay in Jerusalem for a week or two, but I will not be busy all the time and we may be able to make a few excursions. And if I have no time I have some friends who will be glad to show you round the country. Will you come ?

Habib. I would very much [1] like to come. But I must first get permission from my father. There he is, just coming in.

Elias. You here, Zaki ? You are back from business rather early, aren't you ? What is the matter ? Have you been dismissed ?

Zaki. No, uncle. To-morrow morning I am going to Jerusalem. I have got some business there, and I should like to take Habib with me to show him round a little. Will you let him come with me ?

Elias. All right, he may go with you but keep an eye on him. He is not used to this country and travelling is dangerous these days. Go, Habib, and ask your mother to pack some things for the journey. I will give you letters for a few friends of ours in Jaffa.

[1] *Lit.* with all my heart.

12. Fi l-qunṣulātu l-Inglizīye

Ḥabīb. Biddi eḥki maƐ il-ma'mūr illi biwazziƐ il-wīzāwāt.
Il-Qawwās. Ila āno bilād, yā Chawāzhāt ?
Ḥabīb. Ɛa Falasṭīn.
Il-Qawwās. Tāni ōḍa Ɛa sh-shmāl. Hūwe il'ān mush hōn, lākin birzhaƐ baƐd kām da'īya.
Zaki. Mā mnighdir nistanna. Ikūn rāḥ ishrab wiski. Hēk biƐamlu il ma'mūrīn. Mā bishtighlu ktīr.

Ḥabīb. Ṭawwil bālak, yā ḥabībi! Halla' zhāi.
Il-Ma'mūr. Il Ɛafu Ɛaminni [1] challētkon tistannu, yā Chawāzhāt! Kān Ɛandi shī shughl. Tfáḍḍalu!
Ḥabīb. Barīd asāfir la Falasṭīn. Lāzim li wīza ? Ɛandi bazabōrt Amērikāni.
Il-Ma'mūr. NaƐam, yā Chawāzha, il-wīza lāzime. Ḥaḍrtak bitrīd tib'a fi Falasṭīn midde ṭawīle ?
Ḥabīb. La', zhimƐatēn bass.
Il-Ma'mūr. Ṭayyib. Min faḍlak, Ɛabbi il-war'a hādi. U il-Chawāzha ?
Zaki. Ɛaṭīni kamān waḥde. Minrūḥ sawa.
Il-Ma'mūr. Ḥaḍrtak kamān Amērikāni ?
Zaki. La', Libnāni.
Il-Ma'mūr. Fa'izan baƐṭīk tāni waḥde. Tfaḍḍal!

Ḥabīb. 'Ul li, yā Zaki, min āno ṭarī' minfūt Falasṭīn ?
Zaki. Shū byaƐrifni ? Challi has-su'āl, u mnistaƐlim baƐdēn. Inte ḥāḍir ? MnaƐṭi l-wara'āt.
Il-Ma'mūr. Ḥaḍrtak kātib hōn innak tsāfir la Falasṭīn li sh-shughl, u ibn Ɛammak bīrūḥ li t-tanazzoh. Kīf hāda ? Mā bitrūḥu sawa ?

[1] For Ɛan inni.

12. At the British Consulate

Habib. I wish to speak to the official who issues visas.
The Porter. To which country do you want to go, gentlemen ?
Habib. To Palestine.
The Porter. The second room on the left. The official has gone out, but he will be back in a minute.
Zaki. We can't wait. He's probably gone out to have a glass of whisky. These officials seem to be like that. They don't overwork themselves.
Habib. Have patience. Here he comes.
The Official. Sorry to have kept you waiting, gentlemen. I had some business to attend to. What can I do for you ?
Habib. I want to go to Palestine. Must I have a visa ? I have an American passport.
The Official. Yes, sir, you must have a visa. Do you intend to stay in Palestine for some time ?
Habib. No, only a fortnight.
The Official. All right. Fill in this form, please. And you, sir ?
Zaki. Give me a form as well. We are going together.
The Official. Are you also American ?
Zaki. No, Lebanese.
The Official. Then you must have a different form. There you are.
Habib. Tell me, Zaki, by what way do we enter Palestine ?
Zaki. I don't know. Leave this question, and we'll find out later. Are you ready ? Let's hand in the forms.
The Official. You write here that you are going on business, and your cousin says he is going for pleasure. How is that ? You are both going together, aren't you ?

Zaki. Maεlūm, rāyħīn sawa. Ana barūħ li sh-shughl u hūwe bīrāfi'ni.
Habīb. Biddi astafhim min ē ṭarī' mnidchul Falasṭīn. Bitrīd tíktubo hōn ?
Il-Ma'mūr. Hāda mā bīsāyil ; mush mhimm. Min faḍlak, il- azabōrt tábaεak. Ha'' il-wīza biṭlaε εashrīn 'irsh.
Zaki. Kām 'irsh min shān bazabōrti ? Kamān εashrīn ?
Il-Ma'mūr. La', yā Chawāzha, chamsa u εashrīn. Tfáḍḍalu, isterīħu shwē, ħatta nħaḍḍir il-wīzāwāt.

13. Il-Farmāshiye

Habīb. 'Ul li, yā Zaki, lāzim nistaεzhil ?
Zaki. La', mush ḍarūri. Lissa εanna wa'et. Il-baṣṣ mā bīsāfir illa baεd nuṣṣ sāεa. Bitrīd tishtiri shī ?
Habīb. Aiwa, lāzimni baεḍ aflām li l-kámera tábaεi. Halla' chaṭar εala bāli : mā εandi illa wāħid minhon, u mbēyin, mä bīkaffīni.
Zaki. Fī dikkān 'uddām il-maħaṭṭa. Ana kamān biddi ishtiri shī aghrāḍ. Ilħa'ni !
(*Bīfūtu id-dikkān.*)
Habīb. εam bitbīε aflām li l-kámera ?
Id-Dikkānzhi. Naεam, yā Sīdi. Min ē shikl lāzmak ?
Habīb. Il-'add sitte bi tisεa sentimitr. Fī εandak hēk ?

Zaki. Of course we are going together. I am going on business, and he is accompanying me.
Habib. I want to inquire by what way we enter Palestine. Would you be so kind as to fill it in ?
The Official. Never mind ; that is not important. May I have your passport, please ? The fee is twenty piastres.
Zaki. What is the fee for my passport ? Also twenty ?
The Official. No, sir, twenty-five. Please take a seat while we make out the visas.

13. At a Chemist's

Habib. Tell me, Zaki, must we hurry ?
Zaki. No, there is no need to hurry. We still have time. The bus does not leave for another half hour yet. Do you want to buy anything ?
Habib. Yes, I want some films for my camera. I have just remembered that I have only one with me. That will not be enough.
Zaki. There's a shop just opposite the bus station. I also want to buy some things for myself. Come along with me.
(*They enter the shop.*)
Habib. Do you keep roll-films ?
Shopkeeper. Yes, sir. What kind do you require ?
Habib. Size six by nine centimetres. Have you any like that ?

Id-Dikkānzhi. Maɛlūm, yā Sīdi. ɛanna min kill il-ashkāl: Amērikāni, Fransāwi, Inglīzi, kill shī mā bilzam. ɛandi shikl zhdīd, maṣnūɛ chṣūṣan li manāch il-bilād. Bitrīd aħuṭṭ lak fi l-kámera ?

Ħabīb. La', lissa fī. Aɛṭīni minhon árbaɛa.

Id-Dikkānzhi. Hāda ɛashrīn 'irsh, yaɛni kill film bi chamst 'urūsh. U kill film binshiri minna, minghássilo balāsh. Bitrīd shī āchir, yā Chawāzha ?

Ħabīb. La', mamnūnak. . . . 'Addēsh ħa'' han-naḍḍārāt li sh-shams ?

Id-Dikkānzhi. ɛanna min shiklēn: bi sitt 'urūsh u bi tisɛa. Ṭabɛan, bi tisɛat 'urūsh aħsan bi ktīr.

Ħabīb. Ṭayyib, ana bishtiri bi tisɛat 'urūsh. Lā tlaffhon, bilbis-hon.

14. Ish-Shēch

Zaki. Hāy mō'af il-baṣṣāt. Lāzim nfattish ɛa-l-baṣṣ illi bīsāfir la Ħēfa. As'al ħada. . . . 'Ul li, yā shēch, wēn mō'af il-baṣṣ la Ħēfa ?

Ish-Shēch.[1] Challīni dillak, yā mɛallmi. Bdillak imnīħ. Sharrifni u ana taħt amrak. Baɛrif kill shī. 'Iltillak, baɛrif kill shī. Rēyħīn la Ħaifa ? Is-safar bchair ! (*Bimsik walad zghīr bimru' fīh.*) 'Il li, yā ibni, fī baṣṣ haun bsēfir la Ħaifa ?

[1] The speech of the old man and the driver is given here as an example of what might be expected in the way of local dialect in the coastal towns. It is not recommended for imitation.



A street in Beirut

Shopkeeper. Of course, sir. We stock all brands—American, French, and English; everything necessary. Here is a new brand specially made for this climate. Shall I put it in your camera for you?

Habib. No, thank you; there is still one in. Give me four of them.

Shopkeeper. That will be twenty piastres; five piastres each. We develop gratis all films bought from us. Is there anything else, sir?

Habib. No, thanks. What price are these sun-glasses?

Shopkeeper. We have two kinds; at six and nine piastres. Of course, those at nine piastres are much better.

Habib. Very good. I will have a pair at nine piastres. You need not wrap them up, I shall put them on.

14. The Old Man

Zaki. Here is the bus stop. We must find the bus that goes to Haifa. I will ask somebody. . . . Tell me, my good man, where does the bus stop for Haifa?

The Old Man. I will show you, sir. I will show you properly; you have only to ask me. I know everything. Are you going to Haifa? May you have a good journey! (*He seizes hold of a small boy who is passing.*) Boy, is there a bus around here which goes to Haifa?

Zaki. Ēsh biddo hāda ɛam biħki hēk ? Mā byaɛrif shī. Taɛa, ħabībi ! Ndawwir ɛa l-baṣṣ la ħālna. Shū l-otomobīl il-achḍar wā'if hōnīk ? Miftikir inno hāda hūwe. Ē, maẓbūṭ ! Maktūb fīh : Bērūt—Haifa. (*Bitwizhzhhu ɛa l-baṣṣ. Il-ichtiyār birkoḍ bilħa'hon, lākin mā bi'dir ifūt la ɛandhon.*)

Zaki (li sh-shofēr). Il-baṣṣ bīsāfir la Hēfa ?
Ish-Shofēr. Naɛam, yā Sīdi, minsēfir la Haifa. Shūf, hāy bayyak bīzhi, biddo iħākīk.
Ish-Shēch. Ilħamdillā ! Fainkon, yā ulēdi ? Mā iltillkon hēk ? Ma dallaitkon imnīħ ? Hāy il-baṣṣ, kbīr, shálabi. Aish biddkon aktar min heyk ? Mā ɛazhabkon ? Insha'alla, tūṣalu la Haifa bchair. U il-ɛárbazhi rzhēl ṭayyib, min ṣħēbi. Biwaṣṣlūkon bi s-salāme. Yā ɛárbazhi, ɛāṭi bēlak !

Zaki. Aɛṭīh shī bachshīsh, hēk biddo ! ɛam bitɛab min kalāmo. Chod hāda, yā ɛammi ! Imshi, yalla, ṭlaɛ ! Rūħ la ghēr maṭraħ !
Ish-Shēch. Kīf ? Haida killo ? Haida mā bichalliṣni ! Bitrazhāk, yā mɛallmi ! Miskīn ana, yatīm ! Dallaitak inte u chayyak, u challaṣtak mn il-ħrāmīye, yā ɛaib ɛalaik !

Ish-Shofēr. Challūni eħki maħħo[1], yā chawāzhāt ! Tfáḍḍalu, fūtu ! Aish biddak, yā ɛammi ? Bikēfīk. Rūħ min haun ! Imshi ! U illā, bzhīb lak il-bōlīs, u hūwe bidillak ɛa l-ħabs.

[1] For maɛho = maɛo.

Zaki. What does he talk so much for ? He doesn't know anything. Come on, Habib, we'll look for the bus ourselves. What is that green car standing over there ? I think that is it. That's right. It has written on it : Beirut–Haifa.
(*They move towards the bus. The old man runs after them but cannot get through to them.*)
Zaki. Does this bus go to Haifa ?
The Driver. Yes, sir. We go to Haifa. But look, there's your old father coming along ; he wants to have a word with you.
The Old Man. At last ! Where were you, my sons? Didn't I tell you so ? Didn't I show you the right way ? There is the bus ; a fine bus it is. What more could you want ? Doesn't it please you ? Well, I hope you arrive all right at Haifa. The driver, a good fellow, is a friend of mine ; he'll take you there safely. Driver, you must take care.
Zaki. Give him a tip ; that is all he wants. I have had enough of his chatter. Take this, uncle, and be off with you somewhere else.
The Old Man. What ! . . . Is that all ? This won't help me much. Have a heart, sir ! I am a poor man, an orphan ! I have guided you and your brother and kept thieves away from you. Shame on you !
The Driver. Let me talk to him, gentlemen. Please step in. Now then, uncle, what do you want ? That is quite enough for you. Off with you ; be off, or else I'll call a policeman and he'll show you the way to jail.

15. Fi lōkanda fi l-'Udes

Zaki. Barīd eħki maɛ ṣāħib il-lōkanda. Wēno ?
Il-Garsōn. Halla' zhāi, yā Sīdi.
Zaki. Fī ɛandak ōḍa li tnēn li l-izhre ?
Ṣāħib il-Lōkanda. Naɛam, yā Sīdi.
Zaki. Lāzimni ōḍa min shān yōmēn tlāte. U biddi il-ōḍa fi ṭ-ṭābi' il-fō'āni iza kān mimkin.
Iṣ-Ṣāħib. Naɛam, yā Sīdi. ɛanna ōḍa kweyse.
Zaki. Ṭayyib, waṣṣilni ilēha, ħatta ashūf.

. . . .

Zaki. 'Addēsh izhrit hal-ōḍa fi l-yōm ?
Iṣ-Ṣāħib. Izhrit hal-ōḍa arbaɛīn 'irsh fi l-yōm, u maɛ il-ghada u il-ɛasha chamsa u tlātīn 'irsh kull shachṣ.
Zaki. Hāda ghāli ktīr.
Iṣ-Ṣāħib. ɛanna archaṣ iza kān bitrīd, walākin hal-ōḍa min auwal dárazhe, u mā fī-sh archaṣ minha fi l-balad.

Zaki. Ṭayyib, bista'zhirha min shān tlāt iyyām, min ghēr akl.
Iṣ-Ṣāħib. U min ghēr fṭūr kamān ?
Zaki. La', mnifṭur ɛayyi'ūna sāɛa sabɛa tamām.

16. Fi s-sū'

Habīb. Biddi arūħ il-yōm itfarrazh ɛa s-sū' u ishtiri tuħaf shar'īye min shān ṣħābi fi Nyū-Yōrk. Is-sū' baɛīd min hōn ?
Zaki. La', mush baɛīd min hōn. Minrūħ sawa baɛd iḍ-ḍuhur. Shū biddak tishtiri ?
Habīb. Shī mitl ásliħa 'adīme u 'imāsh ħarir shughl ish-Shām u ishya min naħās u kuffīyāt u ghēro.

. . . .



A curio dealer

Zaki. Ēsh biddo hāda ƹam biħki hēk ? Mā byaƹrif shī. Taƹa, ħabībi ! Ndawwir ƹa l-baṣṣ la ħālna. Shū l-otomobīl il-achḍar wā'if hōnīk ? Miftikir inno hāda hūwe. Ē, maẓbūṭ ! Maktūb fīh : Bērūt—Haifa. (*Bitwizhzhhu ƹa l-baṣṣ. Il-ichtiyār birkoḍ bilħa'hon, lākin mā bi'dir ifūt la ƹandhon.*)

Zaki (*li sh-shofēr*). Il-baṣṣ bīsāfir la Hēfa ?

Ish-Shofēr. Naƹam, yā Sīdi, minsēfir la Haifa. Shūf, hāy bayyak bīzhi, biddo iħākīk.

Ish-Shēch. Ilħamdillā ! Fainkon, yā ulēdi ? Mā iltillkon hēk ? Ma dallaitkon imnīħ ? Hāy il-baṣṣ, kbīr, shálabi. Aish biddkon aktar min heyk ? Mā ƹazhabkon ? Insha'alla, tūṣalu la Haifa bchair. U il-ƹárbazhi rzhēl ṭayyib, min ṣħēbi. Biwaṣṣlūkon bi s-salāme. Yā ƹárbazhi, ƹāṭi bēlak !

Zaki. Aƹṭīh shī bachshīsh, hēk biddo ! ƹam bitƹab min kalāmo. Chod hāda, yā ƹammi ! Imshi, yalla, ṭlaƹ ! Rūħ la ghēr maṭraħ !

Ish-Shēch. Kīf ? Haida killo ? Haida mā bichalliṣni ! Bitrazhāk, yā mƹallmi ! Miskīn ana, yatīm ! Dallaitak inte u chayyak, u challaṣtak mn il-ħrāmīye, yā ƹaib ƹalaik !

Ish-Shofēr. Challūni eħki maħħo[1], yā chawāzhāt ! Tfáḍḍalu, fūtu ! Aish biddak, yā ƹammi ? Bikēfīk. Rūħ min haun ! Imshi ! U illā, bzhīb lak il-bōlīs, u hūwe bidillak ƹa l-ħabs.

[1] For maƹho = maƹo.

Zaki. What does he talk so much for ? He doesn't know anything. Come on, Habib, we'll look for the bus ourselves. What is that green car standing over there ? I think that is it. That's right. It has written on it : Beirut-Haifa.

(*They move towards the bus. The old man runs after them but cannot get through to them.*)

Zaki. Does this bus go to Haifa ?

The Driver. Yes, sir. We go to Haifa. But look, there's your old father coming along ; he wants to have a word with you.

The Old Man. At last ! Where were you, my sons? Didn't I tell you so ? Didn't I show you the right way ? There is the bus ; a fine bus it is. What more could you want ? Doesn't it please you ? Well, I hope you arrive all right at Haifa. The driver, a good fellow, is a friend of mine ; he'll take you there safely. Driver, you must take care.

Zaki. Give him a tip ; that is all he wants. I have had enough of his chatter. Take this, uncle, and be off with you somewhere else.

The Old Man. What ! . . . Is that all ? This won't help me much. Have a heart, sir ! I am a poor man, an orphan ! I have guided you and your brother and kept thieves away from you. Shame on you !

The Driver. Let me talk to him, gentlemen. Please step in. Now then, uncle, what do you want ? That is quite enough for you. Off with you ; be off, or else I'll call a policeman and he'll show you the way to jail.

15. Fi lōkanda fi l-'Udes

Zaki. Barīd eħki maƐ ṣāħib il-lōkanda. Wēno ?
Il-Garsōn. Halla' zhāi, yā Sīdi.
Zaki. Fī Ɛandak ōḍa li tnēn li l-izhre ?
Ṣāħib il-Lōkanda. NaƐam, yā Sīdi.
Zaki. Lāzimni ōḍa min shān yōmēn tlāte. U biddi il-ōḍa fi ṭ-ṭābi' il-fō'āni iza kān mimkin.
Iṣ-Ṣāħib. NaƐam, yā Sīdi. Ɛanna ōḍa kweyse.
Zaki. Ṭayyib, waṣṣilni ilēha, ħatta ashūf.

. . . .

Zaki. 'Addēsh izhrit hal-ōḍa fi l-yōm ?
Iṣ-Ṣāħib. Izhrit hal-ōḍa arbaƐīn 'irsh fi l-yōm, u maƐ il-ghada u il-Ɛasha chamsa u tlātīn 'irsh kull shachṣ.
Zaki. Hāda ghāli ktīr.
Iṣ-Ṣāħib. Ɛanna archaṣ iza kān bitrīd, walākin hal-ōḍa min auwal dárazhe, u mā fī-sh archaṣ minha fi l-balad.

Zaki. Ṭayyib, bista'zhirha min shān tlāt iyyām, min ghēr akl.
Iṣ-Ṣāħib. U min ghēr fṭūr kamān ?
Zaki. La', mnifṭur Fayyi'ūna sāƐa sabƐa tamām.

16. Fi s-sū'

Habīb. Biddi arūħ il-yōm itfarrazh Ɛa s-sū' u ishtiri tuħaf shar'īye min shān ṣħābi fi Nyū-Yōrk. Is-sū' baƐīd min hōn ?
Zaki. La', mush baƐīd min hōn. Minrūħ sawa baƐd iḍ-ḍuhur. Shū biddak tishtiri ?
Habīb. Shī mitl ásliħa 'adīme u 'imāsh ħarir shughl ish-Shām u ishya min naħās u kuffīyāt u ghēro.

. . . .



A curio dealer

15. At a Hotel in Jerusalem

Zaki. I want to speak to the proprietor. Where is he ?

The Waiter. There he comes, sir.

Zaki. All right. Have you got a room for two ?

The Proprietor. Yes, sir.

Zaki. I want a room for two or three days. I would prefer a top floor room, if possible.

The Proprietor. Yes, sir, we have a very nice room.

Zaki. All right, let me see it, please.

. . . .

Zaki. How much a day is this room ?

The Proprietor. This room costs 40 piastres a day, and with lunch and dinner it is 35 piastres per person.

Zaki. That is very dear.

The Proprietor. We have cheaper rooms, if you desire, but this is a first-class room and you could not get one for less in this town.

Zaki. All right. I will take it for three days, without meals.

The Proprietor. Without breakfast, too ?

Zaki. No, we'll take breakfast. Wake us at seven o'clock prompt.

16. In the Bazaar

Habib. I would like to go to the Bazaar to-day to have a look round, and purchase some oriental objects for my friends in New York. Is the Bazaar far from here ?

Zaki. No ; it is not far from here. We'll go together this afternoon. What do you want to buy ?

Habib. Articles such as old weapons, Damascus silks, brass-work, head-shawls, and other things.

. . . .

Id-Dikkānzhi. Shū bitrīd, yā Chawāzha ?

Ḫabīb. Ɛandak shī kuffīyāt ḫarīr ?

Id-Dikkānzhi. Ɛandi min kill il-azhnās.

Ḫabīb. Ṭayyib, farzhīni il-ashkāl illi Ɛandak. Biddi shī t'īl. Fī Ɛandak kamān íghṭiyet sufra ? U banṭūflāt bi 'aṣab ?

Id-Dikkānzhi. NaƐam, yā Chawāzha. Tfaḍḍal ashūf lak shī.

Ḫabīb. 'Addēsh ḫa'ʾ hal-kuffīye hādi ?

Id-Dikkānzhi. Min dūn mafāṣale u lā mkāsare, támanha tlātīn 'irsh.

Zaki. IsmaƐ, yā Ḫabīb, hādi ghāliye ktīr. Lā taƐṭīh ! 'Addim lo chamstaƐshir 'irsh bass. Bikaffīh.

Ḫabīb. BaƐṭīk chamstaƐshir 'irsh, u lā aktar.

Id-Dikkānzhi. Mā bichalliṣnī hāda. Rismālha chamsa u Ɛashrīn.

Ḫabīb. Ana baƐṭīk Ɛashrīn 'irsh. Mā btiswa hāda, lākin bīƐazhibni hādi u bishtirīha.

Id-Dikkānzhi. La', yiftaḫ Allā.

Ḫabīb. Fa'izan, bidfaƐ tnēn u Ɛashrīn u nuṣṣ, u hāda āchir kilme.

Id-Dikkānzhi. Alla irzu'ni.

Ḫabīb. Mnīḫ, bishtiri min ghērak fi s-sū'. (*Ḫabīb u Zaki biddhon irūḫu, lākin id-dikkānzhi bilḫa'hon.*)

Id-Dikkānzhi. Istannu shwē. Mā binshara archaṣ fi ghēr maṭraḫ. Wa lākin bibīƐ bi chamsa u Ɛashrīn min shān chāṭrak. Mā bīzhīni maksab, u lā 'irsh. Ana bichsur minno. Bass min shān chāṭrak, yā Sīdi.

Ḫabīb. Ṭayyib, bidfaƐ arbaƐ u Ɛashrīn, u is-salām. Chod !

The Shopkeeper. What do you require, sir ?

Habib. Have you any silk head-shawls ?

The Shopkeeper. I have all kinds.

Habib. Good, show me all the kinds you have ; I want something of a heavy quality. Have you any table-covers, too, and slippers embroidered with gold ?

The Shopkeeper. Yes, sir. Please let me show you some.

Habib. How much is this shawl ?

The Shopkeeper. Well, without bargaining or haggling, the price is thirty piastres.

Zaki. Listen, Habib ; this is very dear. Don't pay him that. Offer him fifteen piastres. That's quite enough.

Habib. I will give you fifteen, and no more.

The Shopkeeper. That will not pay me.[1] Its cost price is twenty-five piastres.

Habib. I'll give you twenty for it. It is not worth that much, but I like it and wish to buy it.

The Shopkeeper. I am sorry.[2]

Habib. All right, I'll give you twenty-two and a half, and that is my last word.

The Shopkeeper. May God sustain me !

Habib. Very well. I will buy elsewhere in the market (*They both make to move off but the shopkeeper follows them.*)

The Shopkeeper. Please, stop a moment. These cannot be bought any cheaper elsewhere. I'll sell it at twenty-five but only to you. I won't make any profit, not a piastre. I'll lose on it.

Habib. Very well, I will give you twenty-four, and that settles the matter. There you are.

[1] *Lit.* That will not deliver me.
[2] *Lit.* God will open (another source of income).

17. Maktūb mn il-'Udes

Chēralla. Buṭros Ɛam bit'achchir. BaƐatto Ɛal bōsta 'abl niṣṣ sāƐa, u lissa ma rizhiƐ. Wēno ?

Zar̤īfe. Rayyiħ bālak, yā Chēralla, bīzhi baƐd shwē.

Buṭros (bīfūt). Ɛandi maktūb min shān Ɛammi. Izha min 'Udes, min Ħabīb.

Elyās. Ɛaṭīni íftaħo, yā ibni.

Chēralla. Min Ħabīb ? Alla íħfazo !

Elyās (bi'ra).[1] 'Ħaḍrat sáyyidi el-wālid, ħaras lī Alla zātahu. Ghibb al-ikrām wa l-ashwāq wa taqbīl il-wizhnāt. Laqad waṣalna ila l-Quds bi chēr—li-Llāhi l-ħamd ! Wa namkuth yōmēn thalātha fi Bālās Otēl. Wa inshā'allā, sa naƐūd ila Yāfā fi l-usbūƐ il-qādim. Mā aħsan el-Quds wa kulla mā fīha, yā wālidi l-Ɛazīz ! Innaha madīna fīha Ɛazhā'ib kasīra. Amma Zaki, fa hūwa l'ān mashghūl, wi l-ħamdu li-Llā, bi chēr. Al-yōm zurna al-amākin il-muqáddasa. Wa chitāman arzhu min Allā taƐāla, anna zhamíƐakum bi chēr wa Ɛáfīya. Wa bállighu salāmana ila zhamīƐi ahl il-bēt, wa qábbilu lī wizhnāt wālidati, yaħfázuha l-Bāri. Wa ibn Ɛámmina l-Ɛazīz Zaki yihdi zhazīl as-salām wa t-taħiyyāt. Wa dumtum li ibnak il-mushtāq, Ħabīb.' Mbēyin, bimbaṣiṭ fi l-'Udes, ilħamdillā !

Maryam. BínfaƐo is-safar. U aħsan ishūf bilād ghēr bilādo. Bīṣīr mā bīzhi lo firṣa tā isāfir tāni marra.

[1] This is an example of the style employed in reading aloud, which is a mixture of colloquial and literary pronunciation. th stands for *th* in *thick*, but mostly ث and ذ are pronounced as *s* and *z*.

17. A Letter from Jerusalem

Khairallah. Peter is late. I sent him to the post office half an hour ago, and he is not back yet. Where can he be ?

Zarife. Don't worry, Khairallah, he'll be back shortly.

Peter (entering). I have a letter for my uncle. It is from Jerusalem, from Habib.

Elias. Let me open it, my boy.

Khairallah. From Habib ? May God protect him !

Elias (reads). 'To my dear father, may God preserve his person for me ![1] After paying respects and kissing the cheeks : We arrived safely in Jerusalem, praise be to the Almighty. We shall be staying two or three days at the Palace Hotel. We hope to return to Jaffa next week.

'How beautiful is Jerusalem and everything in it, dear father ! There are many wonderful things in this city. Zaki is busy, and well. To-day we paid a visit to the Holy Places.

'In conclusion, I hope that you are all well and in good health. Convey my regards to all those at home and pay my respects to my mother ; God keep her ! Our esteemed cousin Zaki sends his kind regards. With best wishes from your loving son, Habib.'

He is obviously enjoying himself in Jerusalem.

Mary. He'll profit by the journey. It will do him good to see strange countries. Who knows whether he will ever have the opportunity again to travel like this ?

[1] *This is the nearest English equivalent of a typical Arabic letter style which appears somewhat stilted and rhetoric to Western readers. It is couched in semi-literary language.*

18. Is-safar ila Bēt Laħm

Zaki. Hāda ṣāħbi is-seyyid Ɛabd ir-Raħīm. Kinna nishtighil sawa fi l-bank fi Ħēfa. Hūwe ắdami u byaƐrif 'Udes ṭayyib.

Ɛabd ir-Raħīm. Ana bitsharrif. Ħakā li[1] Zaki ktīr Ɛan Ħaḍrtak. Kīf bitshūf bilādna ?

Ħabīb. Ana mā shift ktīr minha lissa, illa hāda illi shifto mn il-baṣṣ Ɛa ṭ-ṭarī'.

Ɛabd ir-Raħīm. Iza kint bitrīd, adillak fi 'Udes. Yā Zaki, intu mashghūlīn hal-lēle ?

Zaki. La', niħne fāḍyīn.

Ɛabd ir-Raħīm. Fa'izan, challīna nirkeb sawa Ɛa Bēt Laħm. Azhīb baƐḍ isħābna u nistāzhir ħamīr. ṬiliƐ il-badr hal-lēle.

Ħabīb. Ɛāl ! Is-safar ṭawīl min hōn la Bēt Laħm ?

Ɛabd ir-Raħīm. SāƐa bass. Mnāchod lina shī li l-akl u ish-sharb. Bīwāfi'kum ?

Zaki. Aywa. Ēmta nsāfir, yā Ɛabd ir-Raħīm ?

Ɛabd ir-Raħīm. Ana izhi laƐandkum sāƐa tmāne. Chudu balṭō'āt u ṭaƐām wāfir. Arūħ hal'ēt adabbir Ɛan il-ħamīr. MaƐ is-salāme. Lilliqā !

19. Il-Bōṣṭa

Ħabīb. Fī makātīb hōn bi ismi—Haddād ? Hāy bazabōrti.

Il-Mustachdam. La', yā Sīdi. Mā izha lissa il-bōṣṭa min Urubba u il-Wilāyāt il-Muttáħida. Il-bosṭa bit'achchir il-yōm.

Ħabīb. Ɛarrifni, 'addēsh izhrit il-maktūb ila Nyū-York ?

[1] Before li with suffixes, the stress of Past and Imperative forms is shifted to the last syllable—if it does not rest there already—and final short vowels are lengthened ; e.g. katáb li, katabū lo.

18. The Journey to Bethlehem

Zaki. This is my friend Abdurrahim. We used to work together at the bank in Haifa. He is a nice fellow and knows Jerusalem well.

Abdurrahim. I am pleased to meet you. Zaki has told me much about you. How do you like our country ?

Habib. I haven't seen much of it yet, except what I saw from the bus on the way here.

Abdurrahim. If you like, I will show you round Jerusalem. Are you two busy to-night, Zaki ?

Zaki. No, we are free.

Abdurrahim. Then let us all take a ride to Bethlehem. I shall bring along some friends, and we will hire donkeys. There is a full moon to-night.

Habib. Splendid ! Is it a long ride to Bethlehem ?

Abdurrahim. Only an hour. We will take something to eat and drink. Is that agreed ?

Zaki. Yes. When do we start, Abdurrahim ?

Abdurrahim. I shall come to you at eight o'clock. Take coats and plenty of food. I will go now and arrange about the donkeys. Good-bye.

19. The Post Office

Habib. Are there any letters for me ? My name is Haddad. Here is my passport.

The Clerk. No, sir. The post from Europe and the United States has not arrived yet. The mail is late to-day.

Habib. Tell me, please, what is the fee for a letter to New York ?

Il-Mustachdam. Chamstaɛshar mīlīm, yā Sīdi.

Ḥabīb. Ēna bosṭa aḥsan la Amērika ?

Il-Mustachdam. Aḥsan bōsṭa hīye illi bitsāfir yōm it-tlāte, is-sāɛa tintēn baɛd iḍ-ḍuhur maɛ il-wābūr iṭ-Ṭalyāni min Ḥēfa. U il-bōsṭa bi ṭ-ṭiyāra bitsāfir bukra, is-sāɛa ɛashra u nuṣṣ tamām.

Ḥabīb. Kīf ? Fī barīd zhawwi la Amērika ?

Il-Mustachdam. Naɛam, yā Sīdi. Bīrūḥ bi ṭ-ṭiyāra la Ingiltēra, u minha maɛ il-wābūr.

Ḥabīb. Fī ziyāde bi l-barīd izh-zhawwi ?

Il-Mustachdam. La', yā Sīdi, mā fī-sh.

Ḥabīb. Mamnūnak. . . . Halla' chaṭar ɛala bāli, lāzim ibɛat tilgrāf la Bērūt.

Zaki. La mīn ? La abūk ? Shū lāzim tibɛat tilgrāf ? Ktub lo maktūb.

Ḥabīb. La', bistanẓir chabar minni, u bikūn mashghūl il-bāl.

Zaki. Mnīḥ, íbɛato min hōn u minrūḥ.

20. Fī l-maḥaṭṭa

Zaki. Rāḥ ishtiri t-tazākir. Biddak trūḥ la hōnīk tā tishtiri shī zharāyid ḥatta mni'ra bi t-trēn ?

Ḥabīb. ɛanna wa'et kāfi lissa. Il-aḥsan bistanna maɛak u mnishtiri kill shī sawa. Bachāf nitḍayyaɛ fi z-zaḥme hōni.

Zaki. Ṭayyib, taɛa maɛi. . . .

Aɛṭīna tizkartēn, sekōndo ɛa Yāfa. . . . Mamnūn. 'Addēsh il-izhra ?

Il-Mustachdam. Itnaɛashr 'irsh kill waḥde. Hāda bīsāwi arbaɛ u ɛashrīn 'irsh.

Zaki. Mniḥ. Taɛa, yā Ḥabīb ! Hāy wāḥid bībīɛ zharāyid. Yā walad, fī ɛandak shī zharāyid sūrīye ?



Jerusalem post office

The Clerk. Fifteen mils, sir.

Habib. Which is the best mail for America ?

The Clerk. The best mail is the one which leaves on Tuesday at 2 p.m. by the Italian steamer from Haifa. Then there is the air mail, to-morrow morning at half-past ten sharp.

Habib. What ? Is there an air mail service to America ?

The Clerk. Yes, sir, it goes by air to England, and from there by boat.

Habib. Is there surcharge on air mail ?

Clerk. No, sir, there is none.

Habib. Thank you. . . . I have just remembered, I have to send a telegram to Beirut.

Zaki. To whom ? To your father ? Why send him a telegram ? Write a letter.

Habib. No, he is waiting to hear from me and will be worried.

Zaki. All right, send it from here, and let us go.

20. At the Station

Zaki. I am going to get the tickets. Will you go over there and buy some newspapers to read in the train ?

Habib. We still have plenty of time. I had better stay with you and we will get everything together. There is such a crowd here at the station ; I am afraid we might lose each other.

Zaki. All right, come with me. . . . Give me two second-class tickets to Jaffa. Thank you ; how much is that ?

The Clerk. Twelve piastres a ticket ; that makes twenty-four piastres in all.

Zaki. There you are. Come on, there is a newspaper-seller. Here, have you any Syrian papers ?

Bayyāɛ izh-Zharāyid. La', yā Chawāzha. Lākin ɛandi kill zharāyid Falasṭīn u *il-Ahrām* kamān.

Ḥabīb. Mā biddi *l-Ahrām.* Challīna mnishtiri *il-Falasṭīn.* Fī ɛandak shī zharāyid mṣáwwara ?

Bayyāɛ izh-Zharāyid. Naɛam, yā Chawāzha. Hāy *il-Muṣawwar.* Il-kill tlāt 'urūsh u nuṣṣ.

Zaki. Aɛṭīni *l-Ahrām.*

Ḥabīb. Hāy záleme bībīɛ baṭṭīch. Challīna mnishtiri u mnākol ɛa ṭ-ṭarī'. 'Addēsh ḥa''ha il-baṭṭīcha ? [1]

Bayyāɛ il-Baṭṭīch. Baṭṭīch ɛāl, yā Chawāzha, min aḥsan shikl. Mā fī-sh mitlhum. Hādi bi tlāt 'urūsh bass, yā Chawāzha.

Zaki. Mnaɛṭīk 'irshēn.

Bayyāɛ il-Baṭṭīch. Chudo bi 'irshēn u nuṣṣ, yā Chawāzha. Kattar chērak, is-safar bi chēr, insha'alla.

Zaki. Fī ɛanna sagāyir, yā Ḥabīb ?

Ḥabīb. Naɛam, ishtrēt ɛilbe kbīre. Taɛa, lāzim niṭlaɛ.

Zaki. Aywa, ṣār wa'et. . . . Hat-trēn bīsāfir ɛa Yāfa ?

Il-Ma'mūr. Hat-trēn hāda bīsāfir ɛa l-Lidd. Lāzim tínzilu hunāk u tāchdu tāni trēn.

Zaki. Yā chsāra ! ɛala kill ḥāl, mush fi īdna.[2] Tā ndawwir ɛala sekōndo li d-duchān. Hāy kirstēn ṣōb ish-shubbāk. Ḥuṭṭ il-baṭṭīcha tábaɛak fō', u aɛmil maɛrūf, nāwilni sigāra.

21. Fi bēt il-Ḥāj ɛabdalla Aḥmad, fi Yāfa

ɛabdalla. Ahlan u sahlan, mīt ahlan u sahlan, yā ūlādi ! Tfáḍḍalu, fūtu ! Ḥallat il-bárake.

[1] *Lit.* How much is its price, the (single) melon ?

[2] *Lit.* It is not in our hand.

The Newsboy. No ; but I have all the Palestinian papers, and the *Ahram* [1].

Habib. I don't want the *Ahram.* Let us buy the *Falastin.* Have you got any illustrated papers ?

The Newsboy. Yes, here is the *Musawwar.* That is three and a half piastres.

Zaki. Give me the *Ahram.*

Habib. There is a man selling melons. Shall we [2] buy one and eat it on the way ? How much are your melons ?

The Melon Seller. Fine melons, the very best. There are no others like them. This one is only three piastres, sir.

Zaki. We will take it for two.

The Seller. You can have it for two and a half piastres, gentlemen. Thank you, a pleasant journey !

Zaki. Have we any cigarettes, Habib ?

Habib. Yes, I bought a large box. Come on, we must get on the train.

Zaki. Yes, it's time. . . . Is this train for Jaffa ?

An Official. This train goes to Lydda. You will have to alight there and get another train.

Zaki. What a pity ! Anyway it cannot be helped. Let us look for a second-class smoker carriage. . . . There we are, two window seats. Put your melon on the rack and let me have a cigarette, please.

21. At the House of Haj Abdallah Ahmad in Jaffa

Abdallah. Welcome, welcome, my boys ! Come in ! What a pleasant surprise ! [3]

[1] *Published in Cairo.* [2] *Lit.* Let us . . .

[3] *Lit.* The blessing has descended on us ! *This conversation is an example of the very florid and ornate style affected by many of the older generation in the middle and upper classes.*

Zaki. Alla ibārik fīk, yā Ħāj Ɛabdalla!

Ɛabdalla. Auħashtana, yā Zaki.

Zaki. Alla lā yūħshak, yā ustāz! Hāda Ħabīb, ibn Ɛammi Elyās, wa Ɛando maktūb min shān Ħaḍrtak min abūh. Wiṣlu min Nyū-Yōrk 'abl kām yōm.

Ɛabdalla. Ilħamdulillā, Ɛa s-salāme! Bắraka Alla fīkon! Ṣāħbi l-Ɛaziz Elyās Ħaddād! Walla, beħibbo ana! Wēno? Lēsh mā sharrafna?

Ħabīb. Ɛando shighl mhimm il'ān fi Sūrīya. Walākin insha'alla bīzhi ghēr marra laƐandkon.

Ɛabdalla. Ilħamdulillā taƐāla! Ana ktīr mushtāq ilēkom.

Zaki u Ħabīb (sawa). U niħne bi l-aktar.

Ɛabdalla. Niħne dāyman fi ghāyit ish-shōq la shōfitkom. Tfắḍḍalu, isteriħu, ḍallu Ɛắndana tā nitghadda sawa.

Zaki. Mnitsharrif, bi kull surūr.

Ɛabdalla. 'Ul li, yā Ħabīb, kīf ħālak? Insha'alla mabṣūṭ? Kīf ħāl abūk, u ahl il-bēt?

Ħabīb. Alla isallmak, kullna bi chēr wa Ɛāfya, ilħamdillā.

Ɛabdalla. Ilħamdulillā! 'Ul li, shū l-chabar Ɛandak? Shū btaƐmil halla' fi Nyū-Yōrk? Ɛam btishtighil maƐ abūk?

Ħabīb. La', ana Ɛammāl idros fi l-kullīye fi Nyū-Yōrk bi ṭ-ṭibb. Biddi iṭlaƐ ħakīm, insha'alla.

Ɛabdalla. Ɛāl, yā ibni! Mā ashraf il-aṭibba u aƐmālhom! Azhdādna fi l-Ándalus taħt il-chúlafa kānu muƐtabarīn min aƐẓam il-aṭibba fi d-dinya kullha. U il-yōm il-Ifranzh madyūnīn ktīr ilēhom. . . . Tfắḍḍalu Ɛa l-ghada. Minfūt la tāni ōḍa.



The reception-room of a wealthy Arab house

Zaki. God bless you, Haj Abdallah!

Abdallah. You have neglected us,[1] Zaki.

Zaki. I am sorry about that. This is Habib, the son of my Uncle Elias; he has a letter for you from his father. They arrived from New York a few days ago.

Abdallah. Praise be to God for his safe arrival! God bless you! My dear friend Elias Haddad! How much I esteem him! But where is he? Why has he not come?

Habib. At the moment he has important business in Syria. But he hopes to come some other time to see you.

Abdallah. God be praised! I have been longing to see you.

Zaki and Habib (*together*). And we also.

Abdallah. We always have a great desire to see you. Make yourself comfortable and stay for lunch with us.

Zaki. Yes, with pleasure.

Abdallah. Tell me, Habib, how are you yourself? Well, I hope? How is your father and all at home?

Habib. God protect you. We are all in the best of health.

Abdallah. God be praised! Tell me, what news do you bring? What are you doing now in New York? Are you working for your father?

Habib. No, I am at present studying medicine at the University in New York. I hope to become a doctor.

Abdallah. Splendid, my boy! How noble a profession is medicine![2] Our forefathers in Spain under the Caliphs were reckoned among the greatest physicians in the world. Europe is still greatly indebted to them. . . . Please, come into the next room for lunch.

[1] *Lit*. You have made us feel lonely. *The answer is*: May God make you not lonely!
[2] *Lit*. How noble are the physicians and their deeds!

22. Il-widāɛ

Chēralla. Haṭṭēt kill shī fi l-ħizhra, yā Elyās ?
Elyās. Naɛam. U il-chaddām rattab kill shī.
Chēralla. 'Addēsh is-sāɛa ? Lāzim ninzil mn il-wābūr ħālan ?
Elyās. La', lissa ɛandak ɛasht da'āyi'.
Zarīfe. Lā tinsi, yā Maryam : ktubi lina ɛind wuṣūlkon ɛala Nyū-York. Niṣtanẓir chabar minkon.
Maryam. Maɛlūm. Niktub lēkon[1] ɛala ṭarī'na u nibɛat maktūb min Nābuli. U kamān marra nishkurkon kull ish-shukr, yā ichti. Mā ninsa zhamīlkon kill ɛumrna.
Chēralla. Il-ɛafu. Sharraftūna u farraħtūna bi i'āmitkon máɛana. Yārēt btíghdiru teḍillu laɛanna midde ṭawīle. Insha'alla nshūf killkon ɛan 'arīb. Bīzhūz tezūru Sūrīya fi s-sint izh-zhāye ?
Elyās. Min sū' ħaẓẓna mā biftikro mimkin, yā Chēralla. Is-safar ṭawīl u Amērika baɛīde. Walākin, insha'alla, Zaki īzhi laɛanna fi s-sint izh-zhāye ?
Zaki. Iza kān mimkin, bħibb arūħ la Amērika tā ashūfkon.

Zarīfe. Hazamtu kill il-hidāya ? Arzhu mā insītu shī.

Elyās. Kān lāzim nishtiri ṣhanṭa zhdīde, tā nħuṭṭ killa mā ɛaṭētūna fīh.
Il-Chaddām. Il-wābūr bīsāfir baɛd da'ī'tēn. Smaħ li, yā Chawāzha, lāzim tínzilu halla'.
Chēralla, Zarīfe, u Zaki (sawa). Alla ikūn máɛakon, u iwaṣṣilkon bi s-salāme, u is-safar bi chēr !
Elyās, Maryam, u Habīb (sawa). Fi amāni Llā !

[1] For ilēkon.

22. Farewells

Khairallah. Have you put everything in the cabin, Elias ?
Elias. Yes ; the steward has put everything in order.
Khairallah. What is the time ? Must we leave the boat now ?
Elias. No ; you have another ten minutes yet.
Zarife. Don't forget, Mary, to write to us when you get to New York. We will be waiting for news from you.
Mary. Of course. We'll write to you on our way. We will drop you a line from Naples. And again we must thank you all very much. We shall never[1] forget your kindness to us.
Khairallah. Oh, don't mention it. You have given us great pleasure by your visit. We wish you could have stayed with us longer. Perhaps we shall be seeing you again soon. Will you be visiting Syria next year ?
Elias. Unfortunately, I do not think that will be possible. It is a long journey and America is far away. But we hope that Zaki will come to stay with us next year.
Zaki. I would like to come to America to see you if it is possible.
Zarife. Have you packed all the presents ? I hope you have not forgotten anything.
Elias. We had to buy an extra case to pack all the things you gave us.
Steward. The boat is leaving in a few minutes. Excuse me, sir, but you will have to go now.
Khairallah, Zarife, and Zaki (together). God-speed and may you have a good voyage !
Elias, Mary, and Habib (together). Farewell !

[1] *Lit.* all our life.

VOCABULARY

A

ábadan	(*with a negative*) never	أبداً
achad : yāchod	to take	أخذ
achḍar	green	أخضر
āchir	last, latest	آخر
ādami, pl. awādim	gentleman	مهذّب
aghlab	the majority	أغلب
ahl	people, family	أهل
aħyan	easier	أسهل
aħsan	better, best	خير
mā aħla	how beautiful !	ما أحلى
aiwa	yes	نعم
akal : yākol	to eat	أكل
aktar	more, most	أكثر
āle, pl. ālāt	instrument	آلة
allaf : i'allif	to write a book	ألف
amīr	prince	أمير
āno	which	أىّ
arād : irīd	to wish	أراد
arḍ	earth	أرض
asraɛ	quicker, quickest	أسرع
aṣl	origin	أصل
auħash : yūħish	to make one feel lonely	أوحش
awāɛi	things, effects	أواع
azāɛ	to broadcast	أذاع
ázhnabi	foreign	أجنبىّ
a'all	less, least	أقلّ
a'ṣa	extremity	أقصى

B

bāb	gate, door	باب
bachshish	a tip	بخشيش
bada : yibda	to begin	بدأ
bādnzhān	aubergine	باذنجان
badr	full moon	بدر
bahr	sea	بحر
bāl	mind	بال
balad	town	بلد
balāsh	gratis	مجاناً
balṭō, pl. **balṭo'āt**	coat	رداء
banaḍōra	tomato	بندورة
banṭūfle	slipper	بابوج
bārak : ibārik	to bless	بارك
bárake	blessing	بركة
barīd zhawwi	air-mail	بريد جوّى
barnāmizh, pl. **barāmizh**	programme	برنامج
barra, cstr. **barrāt**	outside	خارج
bass	only	فقط
başş	bus	باصّ
baṭṭāl	worthless	بطّال
baṭṭicha, pl. **baṭṭich**	water-melon	بطّيخ
bazabōrt	passport	جوازسفر
bāƐ : ibīƐ	to sell	باع
baƐat : ibƐat	to send	بعث
baƐdēn	afterwards	بعده
baƐḍ	some	بعض
baƐḍ	each other	بعض بعضاً
baƐīd	far	بعيد
ba'a	well then !	—

ba'a : ib'a	to stay	بقى
ba'lāwa	almond cake	بقلاوه
bḍāƐa, pl. **baḍāyiƐ**	goods	بضاعة
bēn	between	بين
bēt, pl. **buyūt**	house, family	بيت
bēt, pl. **abyāt**	verse	بيت
bēƐ	sale	بيع
bhēs, bi hēs	because	بحيث
bi	in	ب
biddi, biddak, etc.	I want, etc.	أريد
bilād	country	بلاد
bōlis	police, policeman	شرطة
bōşṭa	post office ; mail	بريد
bukra	to-morrow	غداً
bzāti, bzātak, etc.	myself, etc.	نفسى

CH

chabar	news	خبر
chaddām	steward	خدّام
chāf : ichāf	to fear	خاف
chalaş : ichliş (min)	to finish	فرغ، خلص
challaş : ichalliş	to redeem, save	خلّص
challi	let ! allow !	دع
chasar : ichsur	to lose	خسر
chaṭar : ichṭur	to occur to one's mind	خطر
Ɛala chaṭrak	for your sake	على خاطرك
chāṭirkon	good-bye	بخاطركم
chēr	prosperity, well-being	خير
chsāra	loss	خسارة
chşūşan	especially	خصوصاً

D

dabbar : idabbir	to arrange	دبّر
dachal : idchul	to enter	دخل
dafaɛ : idfaɛ	to pay	دفع
dall : idill	to lead	دلّ
dār : idūr	to go round	دار
daras : idros	to study	درس
dárazhe	degree	درجة
dawwar : idawwir (ɛala)	to go round, (to seek)	دوّر (على)
dāyman	always	دائماً
da'īya, pl. **da'āyi'**	minute	دقيقة
dikkān, pl. **dakākīn**	shop	دكّان
dikkānzhi	shopkeeper	صاحب دكّان
dinye	world	دنيا
duchān	smoking	دخان

Ḍ

ḍarūri	necessary	ضروريّ
ḍall : iḍill	to stay	ظلّ
ḍarr : iḍurr	to harm	أضرّ
mā biḍurr	it doesn't matter; no harm	لا بأس
ḍayf, pl. **ḍuyūf**	guest	ضيف
ḍuhur	noon	ظهر

E

emm	mother	أمّ
ēmta	when ?	متى
ēna	which ?	أيّ

erchiṣ	cheap	رخيص
ēsh	what ?	ماذا

F

fábrika	factory	مصنع
fāḍi	free, empty	فاضي
fakkar : ifakkir	to occur to one's mind	فكّر
Falasṭīn	Palestine	فلسطين
farzha : ifarzhi	to show	أرى
far'	difference	فرق
fāt : ifūt	to enter	دخل
fataḥ : iftaḥ	to open	فتح
fattash : ifattish (ɛala)	to look for something	فتّش
fayya' : ifayyi'	to wake up	ايقظ
fa'izan	therefore, then	فإذن
fi	in, about	في
fi, negat. **māfish**	there is	يوجد
fihim : ifham	to understand	فهم
film, pl. **aflām**	film	شريط
firzhe	sightseeing	فرجة
firṣa	opportunity	فرصة
fiṭir : ifṭur	to breakfast	فطر
fō'	above, on top	فوق
fō'āni	upper	فوقانيّ
fṭūr	breakfast	فطور

G

gumruk	customs	جمرك
gumrukzhi	customs-officer	مأمور الجمرك

GH

ghada	lunch	غداء
ghāli	expensive	غالٍ
gharaḍ, pl. **aghrāḍ**	wish, thing needed	غرض
ghassal : ighassil	to develop (a film)	غسّل
ghāye	intention	غاية
ghazal	yarn	غزل
ghēr (precedes the word)	another	غير
min ghēr	without	من غير
ghiṭa, pl. **ighṭiye**	cover, cloth	غطاء

H

hāda, fem. **hādi**, pl. **hādōl**	this	هذا
hādāk, fem. **hādīk**	that	ذلك
hadīye, pl. **hidāya**	gift	هديّة
halla'	just now	الآن
hal'ēt (Palestinian)	now	الآن
hāy	this	هذا
hāzhar : ihāzhir	to emigrate	هاجر
hēk	so ; this	هكذا
hōn, hōni	here	هنا
hōnīk	there	هناك
hunāk (Palestinian)	there	هناك

Ḫ

ḫabb : iḫibb	to love	أحبّ
ḫabes	prison	حبس

ḫabīb	dear	حبيب
ḫadīs	conversation	حديث
ḫāḍir	ready	حاضر
ḫaḍḍar : iḫaḍḍir	to prepare	حضّر
Ḫaḍrtak	Your Honour	حضرتك
ḫafle	performance	حفلة
ḫaka : iḫki	to speak	تكلم
ḫaki	talk	كلام
ḫakīm	doctor	طبيب
ḫāl, pl. **aḫwāl**	situation	حال
ḫālan	at once	حالاً
ḫalawiyāt	sweets	حلويات
ḫarāmi, pl. **ḫrāmīye**	thief	سارق
ḫarb	war	حرب
ḫarīr	silk	حرير
ḫaṣīde	harvest	حصيدة
ḫāṣlāt	produce	حاصلات
ḫatta	so that ; even	حتى
ḫaṭṭ : iḫuṭṭ	to put	وضع
ḫayāt	life	حياة
ḫazam : iḫzam	to pack	حزم
ḫazīt !	poor fellow !	مسكين
(ḫazz) min sū'-il-ḫazz	unfortunately	من سوء الحظ
ḫa'ī'i	true, real	حقيقي
ḫa'ī'a	truth	حقيقة
ḫa''	price ; truth	حق
ḫifiz : iḫfaz	to guard	حفظ
ḫimār, pl. **ḫamīr**	donkey	حمار
ḫizhra	cabin	حجرة
ḫkāye, pl. **ḫkāyāt**	story	حكاية

I

icht, pl. **chawāt**	sister	أخت
ichtiyār	old (man)	شيخ، إختيار
Ifranzh	Europeans	أفرنج
iftakar : iftikir	to think	افتكر
ila	to	إلى
il'ān	now	الآن
inbasaṭ : inbisiṭ	to be pleased	انبسط
Ingiltēra	England	إنكلترا
inshara : inshiri	to be bought	انشرى
intashar : intishir	to spread	انتشر
ism	name	اسم
istafham : istafhim	to inquire	استفهم
istafād : istafid	to benefit	استفاد
istanna : istanna	to wait	انتظر
istanẓar : istanẓir	to expect	استنظر
istaurad : istaurid	to import	استورد
istaɛlam : istaɛlim	to find out	استعلم
istaɛmal : istaɛmil	to use	استعمل
istaɛzhal : istaɛzhil	to be in a hurry	استعجل
ista'zan : ista'zin	to ask for permission	استأذن
ista'zhar : ista'zhir	to hire	استأجر
ishtaghal : ishtighil	to work	اشتغل
ishtara : ishtiri	to buy	اشترى
iza	if	إذا
izāɛa	broadcast	إذاعة
izn	permission	إذن
izha : Izhi	to come	جاء
izhre	fare, fee	أجرة
iɛlān	announcement	إعلان

iɛta'ad : iɛta'id	to believe	اعتقد
i'āme	stay	إقامة

K

kaffa : ikaffi	to suffice	كفى
kāfi	enough	كافٍ
kām	how much ? some	كم
kamān	also	أيضاً
kámera	camera	آلة للتصوير
kammal : ikammil	to finish	كمّل
kān : ikūn	to be	كان
kasar : iksir	to stay in a place	مكث
kashaf : ikshif (ɛala)	to examine	كشف
kashef	examination	كشف
kattar	to increase	كثّر
kazālik	likewise	كذلك
kbēbe	roast	كباب
kbīr	large	كبير
kīf	how ?	كيف
kifte	meat balls	كفته
kill, kull	all	كلّ
kilme	word	كلمة
kirsi	seat	كرسى
kitāb, pl. **kutub**	book	كتاب
knēfiye	pastry of sweet vermicelli	كنافيه
ktīr	much, many ; very	كثير
kuffiye	Bedouin head-cloth	كفّيّة
kuntrāto	contract	مقاولة
kūsa	vegetable marrow	كوسا
kwoyyis, fem. **kwēse**	beautiful	حسن

L

lā	not	لا
laff : iliff	to wrap	لف
laħa' : ilħa'	to follow	تبع
lākin, wa lākin	but	لكن
lā-silki	wireless	لاسلكي
laṭīf	nice	لطيف
lawāzim	things needed	لوازم
lāzim	necessary ; one must	لازم
laɛb	pleasure, play	لعب
la'	no	لا
lā'a : ilā'i	to meet	لاقى
la'in	because	لأن
lēle	night, evening	ليلة
lēsh	why ?	لماذا
li'ann	because	لأنّ
libis : ilbis	to wear, put on	لبس
liqā	meeting	لقاء
līra	Turkish Gold Pound, Palestinian Pound	جنيه
līra wara'	Syrian Pound	ليرة سورية
lissa	yet	بعد
lōkanda	hotel	فندق
lugha	language	لغة

M

mā	what	ما
mā	not ; there is not	ليس
mabna, pl. **mabāni**	building	مبنى
madyūn	under obligation	مديون

maḍa : imḍi	to pass the time	مضى
mafāṣale	bargaining	مفاصلة
maħūl	marvellous	عجيب
maħall	a firm	محلّ، بيت تجارة
maħaṭṭa	railway station	محطّة
maħṣūlāt	products	محصولات
mākīne, pl. **mākīnāt**	machine	ماكينة
maksab	profit	مكسب
maktab	office	مكتب
maktūb, pl. **makātīb**	letter	مكتوب
mamnūn	grateful, obliged	ممنون
mara' : imru'	to pass	مر
marħūm	deceased	مرحوم
marra, pl. **marrāt**	a time (*fois*)	مرّة
masa, mise	evening	مساء
masak : imsik	to seize	مسك
másalan	e.g.	مثلاً
masha : imshi	to go away ; walk	مشى
mashghūl	busy, occupied	مشغول
maṣnūɛ	produced	مصنوع
Maṣr	Egypt ; Cairo	مصر
mashhūr	famous	مشهور
maṭbūɛ	printed	مطبوع
maṭraħ, pl. **maṭāriħ**	place	محلّ
maṭɛam	restaurant	مطعم
mauzhe	wave	موجة
mauzhūd	to be found	موجود
maẓbūṭ	correct	مضبوط
mazhbūr	forced ; one must	مجبور
maɛ	with	مع
maɛlūm	of course	معلوم

maɛmūl	almond pastry	معمول
maɛrūf	a favour	معروف
ma'mūr	an official	مأمور
ma'ɛad	seat	مقعد
mbēyin	it seems	مبيّن
mghanniye (fem.)	singer	مغنّية
mghazzi	nourishing	مغذّ
mhimm	important	مهمّ
midde	space of time	مدّة
miflis	bankrupt	مفلس
milim, pl. **milimāt**	Mil (Palestinian coin)	مليم
milyōn	million	مليون
mimkin	possible	ممكن
min	from	من
min	who ?	مَن
mina, pl. **mawāni**	harbour	ميناء
miskīn !	poor fellow !	مسكين
miye, cstr. **mit**	a hundred	مائة
mitl	like	مثل
mitɛawwa'	late	متعوق
mi'dār	quantity	مقدار
mkāsara	haggling	مكاسرة
mnīh	all right ; good	مليح
mō'af	a stop	موقف
msāfir, pl. **misāfirīn**	traveller	مسافر
mṣawwar	illustrated	مصوّر
mtarzham	translated	مترجم
mudīr	director	مدير
multaqa	meeting	ملتقى
murtāh	comfortable	مرتاح
mush	is not	ليس

mushtā'	longing (*adj.*)	مشتاق
mzháddara	a dish of rice and lentils	مجدّرة
mzhallad	a volume ; bound	مجلّد
mɛallim	teacher	معلّم

N

nādir, fem. **nādra**	rare	نادر
naḍḍārāt	spectacles	نظارة
nafaɛ : infaɛ	to bring profit	نفع
nahār	daytime	نهار
nahās	copper	نحاس
Náhawi	Literary Arabic	نحوى
nām : inām	to sleep	نام
nās	people	ناس
nāwal : ināwil	to hand	ناول
naɛam	yes	نعم
nihāye	extreme	نهاية
nisi : insa	to forget	نسى
niz-ha	amusement	نزهة
nizil : inzil	to descend ; stay	نزل
nōɛ	species	نوع
nuṣṣ	half	نصف

O

ōḍa	room	غرفة
otomobīl	car	سيارة

Q

qunṣulātu	consulate	قنصلاتو

R

rādyo	wireless	لاسلكى
rāfa' : irāfi'	to accompany	رافق
rāḥ	*particle indicating the future*	سوف
rāḥ : irūḥ	to go	ذهب
rakaḍ : irkoḍ	to run	ركض
rattab	to arrange	رتّب
raza' : irzu'	to give (*said of God*)	رزق
restorān	restaurant	مطعم
rikib : irkab	to ride	ركب
rismāl	capital; cost price	رأسمال
rizz	rice	أرز
rizhiℇ : irzhaℇ	to return	رجع

S

sabab, pl. asbāb	reason	سبب
safar	journey	سفر
sāfar : isāfir	to travel	سافر
sakan : iskun	to live in a place	سكن
sakat : iskot	to be silent	سكت
salām	peace	سلام
sallam : isallim	to keep in good health	سلّم
samaḥ : ismaḥ	to permit	سمح
sawa	together	معاً
sawa : iswa	to be worth	سوى
sāwa : isāwi	to do, make	صنع
sāℇad : isāℇid	to support	ساعد
sa'al : is'al	to ask	سأل
sā'al : isāyil	to matter	همّ

sekōndo	second class	درجة ثانية
sene, pl. sinīn	year	سنة
yā Sīdi	Sir (*way of addressing a Muslim*)	يا سيّدى
sigāra, pl. sagāyir	cigarette	سيكارة
silāḥ, pl. ásliḥa	weapon	سلاح
simiℇ : ismaℇ	to hear	سمع
sinema	cinema	سينما
sitt	lady	ستّ
siwār, pl. asāwir	bracelet	سوار
siyāra	car	سيّارة
sufra	table	مائدة
Sūriya	Syria	سوريا
surūr	joy	سرور
sū'	market	سوق
su'āl	question	سؤال

SH

shachṣ, pl. ashchāṣ	person	شخص
shāf : ishūf	to see	رأى
shafa' : ishfa' (ℇala)	to have pity	عطف على
shahr	month	شهر
Shām, ish-Shām	Damascus	دمشق
shamm il-hawa : ishimm	to go for a walk	شمّ الهواء
shams	sun	شمس
shān	matter	شأن
shanṭa, pl. shanṭāt	suitcase	شنطة
sharīk, pl. shúraka	associate	شريك
shāriℇ, pl. shawāriℇ	street	شارع
sharraf : isharrif	to honour	شرّف

shar'	East	شرق
shāɛir, pl. **shúɛara**	poet	شاعر
shī	a thing; something, some	شيء
shighl, shughl	business	شغل
shikl, pl. **ashkāl**	brand	شكل
shirke	company	شركة
shiɛr	poetry	شعر
shmāl	left	شمال ، يسار
shōb	heat	حرارة
shō'	a longing	شوق
shū	what ?	ماذا
shwē, shwēye	a little	قليل

Ṣ

ṣabi, pl. **ṣibyān**	young man	صبي
ṣāḥib, pl. **aṣḥāb**	owner; friend	صاحب
ṣaḥīḥ	correct, true	صحيح
ṣandū', pl. **ṣanādi'**	case	صندوق
ṣār : iṣir	to become; pass	صار
ṣarraf : iṣarrif	to change money	صرّف
ṣifyān	settled	مسكن
ṣōb	near	قريب
ṣubḥ	morning	صبح
ṣūf	wool	صوف

T

tā	so that; until	حتى
tabaɛ	belonging to	لِ
taḥsīn	improvement	تحسين
taḥt	underneath	تحت
tamām	exactly; complete	تمام

taman	price	ثمن
tanazzoh	pleasure	تنزه
tāni	second; another	ثانٍ
tārīchi	historical	تأريخي
tāzhir, pl. **tuzhzhār**	businessman	تاجر
taɛa	come on !	تعال
taɛab : itɛab	to get tired	تعب
taɛāla	be He exalted !	تعالى
ta'rīban	approximately	تقريباً
tḍāyaɛ : itḍāyaɛ	to lose each other	تضايع
tfaḍḍal, fem. **tfáḍḍali,** pl. **tfáḍḍalu**	please	تفضّل
tfarrazh : itfarrazh	to amuse one's self	تفرّج
tghadda : itghadda	to dine	تغدّى
tilgrāf	telegram	برقية
tizkire, pl. **tazākir**	ticket	تذكرة
tizhāra	business	تجارة
tkaddar : itkaddir	to be distressed	تكدّر
trēn, pl. **trēnāt**	train	قطار
tshachchaṣ : itshachchiṣ	to act a role	تشخّص
tsharraf : itsharrif	to be honoured	تشرّف
tuḥfa, pl. **tuḥaf**	an object (antique)	تحفة
twazhzhah : itwazhzhih	to turn	توجّه
tyāb	clothes	ثياب
tyātro, pl. **tyātrō'āt**	theatre	مرسح
tzakkar : itzakkir	to remember	تذكّر
tɛallam : itɛallim	to learn	تعلّم
tɛashsha : itɛashsha	to have supper	تعشّى
tɛawwad : itɛawwid	to be accustomed	تعوّد
t'achchar : it'achchir	to be late	تأخر
t'īl	heavy	ثقيل

Ṭ

ṭabaƐ : iṭbaƐ	to stamp	طبع
ṭabīb, pl. **aṭibba**	doctor	طبيب
ṭabīch	cuisine	طبيخ
ṭābi'	storey	طابق
ṭabƐan	naturally	طبعاً
Ṭalyāni	Italian	ايطاليّ
ṭaraf	side; part	طرف
ṭarī'	way	طريق
ṭarz	pattern, model	طرز
ṭawīl	long	طويل
ṭawwal il-bāl: iṭawwil	to have patience	صبر
ṭayyib	good; all right	طيّب
ṭaƐam : iṭƐam	to taste	طعم
ṭa's	weather	طقس
ṭibb	medicine	طبّ
ṭifrān	impoverished	طفران
ṭiliƐ : iṭlaƐ	to rise; come	طلع
ṭiyāra	aeroplane	طيّارة
ṭūl	during	اثناء

U

Urubba	Europe	اوربا
ustāz	*a polite form of address*	استاذ

W

wābūr	steamer	مركب
wadda : iwaddi	to bring	أوصل
wāfa' : iwāfi'	to suit	وافق

wāfir	plentiful	وافر
wāħid, fem. **waħde**	one	واحد
walad, pl. **ūlād**	son, boy	ولد
wālid	father	والد
wara	behind	وراء
war'a, pl. **wara'āt**	paper, form	ورقة
wāsiƐ	wide	واسع
wazzaƐ : iwazziƐ	to distribute	وزّع
wa'af : yū'af	to stand	وقف
wa'aƐ : yū'aƐ	to fall, occur	وقع
wa'et	time	وقت
wēn	where ?	أين
wiṣil : yūṣal	to arrive	وصل
wiza, pl. **wizāwāt**	visa	سمة ، تأشير

Y

yā	*vocative particle*, O	يا
yā—yā	either—or	أو—إمّا
yabra'	stuffed vine leaves	يبرق
yārēt	oh that !	ياليت
yatīm, pl. **itām**	orphan	يتيم
yaƐni	that is to say	أىْ
yōm, pl. **iyyām**	day	يوم

Z

zaħme	crowd	زحمة
záleme	man, person	شخص
zamān	time	زمان
zār : izūr	to visit	زار
zbūn, pl. **zabāyin**	customer	زبون

zghīr	small	صغير
zingol	a sweetmeat	زنكول
zirāɛa	agriculture	زراعة
ziyāde	extra fee	زيادة
ziyāra	visit	زيارة
zôbaɛa	storm	زوبعة

ZH

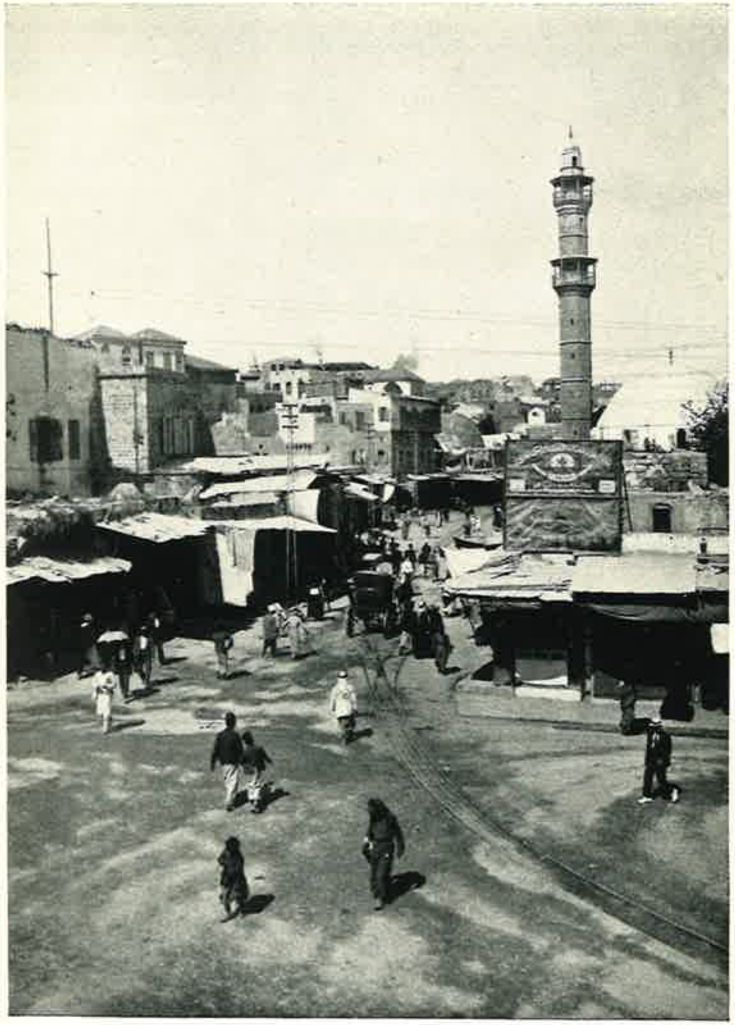
zhāb : izhīb	to bring	أتى ب
zhabal, pl. **zhibāl**	mountain	جبل
zhadd, pl. **azhdād**	grandfather	جد
zhamb	side	جانب
zhamīl	beautiful	جميل
zharrab : izharrib	to try	جرّب
zhāz : izhūz	to be possible	جاز
zhdīd	new	جديد
zhiddan	very	جداً
(zhimle) bi zh-zhimle	wholesale	جملة
zhimɛa	week	جمعة، اسبوع
zhins	kind	جنس
zhnūb	south	جنوب
zhōhar	jewel	جوهر
zhōɛān	hungry	جوعان
zhūwa	inside	داخل

ɛ

ɛa	to, in the direction of	إلى
ɛabba : iɛabbi	to fill in	عبّي
ɛadd : iɛidd	to count	عد
ɛafsh	luggage	عفش

ɛafu	pardon	عفو
ɛaks	contrary	عكس
ɛāl	excellent	عال
ɛala	on	على
ɛālam	world	عالم
ɛam, ɛammāl	*particle of the present tense*	—
ɛamal : yaɛmil	to do	فعل
ɛāmmi, fem. **ɛāmmiye**	popular, colloquial	عامّي
ɛamm	uncle	عمّ
ibn ɛamm	cousin	ابن عمّ
ɛand	with, at	عند
ɛárabi	Arabic	عربي
ɛarabīye	cab	عربة
ɛaraḍ : yaɛriḍ	to offer, present	عرض
ɛaraf : yaɛrif	to know	عرف
ɛárbazhi	driver	سائق
ɛasha	supper, dinner	عشاء
ɛattāl, pl. **ɛattālīn**	porter	حمّال
ɛaṭa : yaɛṭi	to give	أعطى
ɛayyaṭ : iɛayyaṭ	to shout	عيّط
ɛazal : yaɛzil	to dismiss	عزل
ɛazīz	dear	عزيز
ɛazhab : yaɛzhib	to please	عجب
ɛilbe	box	علبة
ɛinwān	title (of a book), address	عنوان
ɛizhzhe	omelette	عجّة
ɛumr	life	عمر

’abl	before	قبل
’adar : yi’dir, yighdir	to be able	قدر
’add	size	قد
’addam : i’addim	to offer	قدّم
’addēsh	how much	كم
’adīm	antique, old	قديم
’ahwe	coffee	قهوة
’āl : i’ūl	to say	قال
’alb	heart	قلب
’alīl	little	قليل
’ara : i’ra	to read	قرأ
’arīb	near	قريب
’arīb, pl. **’arāyib**	relative	قريب
’aṣab	embroidery	قصب
’aṣd	intention	قصد
’aṣīr	short	قصير
’awâm	quick	بالعجلة
’irsh, pl. **’urūsh**	piastre	قرش
’uddām	in front of	أمام
il-’Uds, ’Udes	Jerusalem	القدس
’umāsh, ’imāsh	cloth	قماش
’uṭun	cotton	قطن



Jaffa—the market-place

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTS OF USEFUL WORDS

1. Food and Drink

almonds	**lōz**	لوز
apple	**tuffāḥ**	تفّاح
apricots	**mishmish**	مشمش
artichoke	**charshūf, shōke**	خرشوف
aubergine	**bādnzhān**	باذنجان
banana	**mōz**	موز
beans	**fūl, lūbiya**	فول، لوبياء
beef	**laḥm ba'ar**	لحم بقر
beer	**bīra**	بيرة
bread	**chubz**	خبز
butter	**zibde**	زبدة
cabbage	**malfūf**	ملفوف
carrots	**zhazar**	جزر
cauliflower	**'arnabīṭ**	قرنبيط
celery	**krafs**	كرفس
cheese	**zhibne**	جبن
cherries	**garaz**	كرز
chocolate	**shokolāṭa**	شوكولاطه
cinnamon	**'irfe**	قرفة
coffee	**'ahwe**	قهوة
cream	**'ishṭa**	قشطة
cucumber	**chiyār**	خيار
cup	**finzhān**	فنجان
dates	**tamar, balaḥ**	تمر
egg	**bēḍa,** *pl.* **bēḍ**	بيضة
figs	**tīn**	تين
fish	**samak**	سمك

flour	**’amħ, ţaħīn**	طحين
fork	**shōke,** *pl.* **shōk**	شوكة
fruit	**fawākih**	فواكه
garlic	**tūm**	ثوم
glass	**kubbāye**	كبّاية
grapes	**ɛineb**	عنب
honey	**ɛasal**	عسل
ice cream	**dondōrma, būza**	بوزة
jam	**mrabba**	مربّى
jug	**zharra,** *pl.* **-āt**	جرّة
juice	**ɛaşīr**	عصير
knife	**sikkīne,** *pl.* **sakākīn**	سكّين
lemonade	**limonāḍa**	ليمونادا
lentils	**ɛades**	عدس
lettuce	**chāss**	خسّ
liver	**kibde**	كبدة
maize	**durra**	درّة
meat	**laħm**	لحم
melon	**baţţīch**	بطّيخ
milk	**ħalīb**	حليب
minced meat	**laħm mafrūm**	لحم مفروم
mustard	**chardal**	خردل
napkin	**fūţa,** *pl.* **fuwaţ**	فوطة
oil	**zēt**	زيت
olives	**zētūn**	زيتون
omelette	**ɛizhzhe**	عجّة
onions	**başal**	بصل
orange	**borḍo’ān**	برتقال
peas	**ħimmoş**	حمّص
peach	**durrāqa**	درّاقة
pear	**inzhāş, kommetra**	اجّاص

pepper	**filfil**	فلفل
pickles	**mchallal**	مخلّل
pilaff	**bilāf**	بيلاف
pimento	**flēfle**	مفلفل
pineapple	**’ashţa**	قشطة
pistachio	**fuşţu’**	فستق
plate	**şaħan,** *pl.* **şħūn**	صحن
plum	**chōch**	خوخ
pomegranate	**rummān**	رمّان
potato	**baţāţa**	بطاطا
pumpkin	**’araɛ**	قرع
quince	**sfarzhal**	سفرجل
radish	**fizhl**	فجل
rhubarb	**rawand**	رواند
rice	**ruzz, rizz**	أرزّ
rice and lentils	**mzháddara**	مجدّرة
roast beef	**rozbif, mishwe**	لحم مشوى
rose water	**mā ward**	ماء ورد
salad	**sálaţa**	سلطة
salt	**milħ**	ملح
sauce	**salsa**	سلسا
saucer	**ẓarf finzhān**	ظرف فنجان
sausage	**başţarma**	بسطرمة
soup	**shōrba**	شوربا
sour milk	**laban**	لبن
spinach	**isbānich**	اسبانخ
spoon	**maɛla’a,** *pl.* **-āt**	معلقة
strawberry	**tūt ifranzhi**	توت فرنجى
stuffed	**maħshi**	محشي
sugar	**sukkar**	سكّر
sweets	**ħalawiyāt, mrabbayāt**	حلويات

tea	**shāy**	شاى
tobacco	**tabagh**	تبغ
tomato	**banaḍōra**	بنادورة
tongue	**lisān**	لسان
veal	**laḥm ɛizhl**	لحم عجل
vegetables	**chaḍrawāt**	خضروات
vinegar	**chall**	خلّ
walnuts	**zhōz**	جوز
water	**moyye, mōye**	ماء
water-melon	**zhabas, baṭṭīch achḍar**	بطّيخ أخضر
wine	**nbīd**	خمر، نبيذ

2. Military

aerodrome	**maṭār**	مطار
air raid	**ghāra zhawwīye**	غارة جوّيّة
air raid shelter	**malzha, machba**	ملجأ، مخبأ
air raid warden	**murāqib**	مراقب
alarm	**inzār**	إنذار
ammunition	**zachīra**	ذخيرة
anti-aircraft gun	**madfaɛ muḍādd liṭ-ṭā'irāt**	مدفع مضادّ للطائرات
armistice	**hudne**	هدنة
armoured car	**siyāra mdárraɛa**	سيّارة مدرّعة
army	**zhēsh**	جيش
artillery	**madfaɛīye, ṭōbzhīye**	مدفعيّة
attack	**muhāzhime**	مهاجمة
to attack	**hāzham : ihāzhim**	هاجم
auxiliary policeman	**bōlīs iḍāfī**	بوليس إضافيّ
bandage	**ribāṭ, ḍimāde, ɛiṣābe**	رباط
barbed wire	**silk shā'ik**	سلك شائك

barracks	**'ashle**	قشلة
battalion	**ṭābūr**	طابور
battle	**máɛrake**	معركة
bayonet	**ḥarbe**	حربة
blackout	**ẓalām, ḥálake**	ظلام، حلكة
blockade	**ḥiṣār, mḥāṣare**	حصار
bomb	**qanbal, *pl.* qanābil**	قنبل
high explosive bomb	**qanbal mitfazhzhir**	قنبل متفجّر
incendiary bomb	**qanbal ḥāriq**	قنبل حارق
bullet	**riṣāṣa**	رصاصة
camouflage	**tankīr**	تنكير
camp	**maɛaskar**	معسكر
cannon	**ṭōb, madfaɛ**	مدفع
cartridge	**fáshake, charṭūsh**	خرطوش
cavalry	**chayyālīye**	خيّالة
company	**ōrṭa, firqa**	فرقة
conscription	**tazhnīd izhbāri**	تجنيد إجبارى
court martial	**máḥkame ɛaskarīye**	محكمة عسكريّة
cruiser	**ṭarrād**	طرّاد
curfew	**manɛ it-tazhawwul**	منع التجوّل
defence	**difāɛ**	دفاع
deserter	**hārib**	هارب
to destroy	**ahlak, dammar**	أهلك
destroyer	**mudámmira**	مدمّرة
drill	**tamrīn**	تمرين
enemy	**ɛadu**	عدوّ
escort	**chafīr**	خفير
explosives	**infizhārāt**	إنفجارات
firearms	**ásliḥa nārīye**	أسلحة ناريّة
first aid	**isɛāf áwwali**	إسعاف أوّلى
flag	**bayraq, banḍēra, liwa**	لواء

fort	'alƐa, ħiṣn	قلعة
fortifications	taħṣīnāt	تحصينات
frontier	ħudūd	حدود
frontier guards	ħurrās il-ħudūd	حرّاس الحدود
gas mask	qināƐ, *pl.* áqniƐa	قناع
general staff	arkān il-ħarb	أركان الحرب
headquarters	markaz il-qāyid il-Ɛāmm	مركز القائد العامّ
infantry	biyāde, mashāt	مشاة
information	achbār	أخبار
interpreter	tarzhmān	ترجمان
land mine	lughm arḍi	لغم أرضىّ
lorry	siyāra (li n-naql)	سيّارة للنقل
machine gun	rashshāsh	رشّاش
manœuvres	manāwarāt	مناورات
map	charṭa	خارطة
military	Ɛáskari	عسكرىّ
mine	lughm	لغم
naval	baħri	بحرىّ
navy	uṣṭūl	أسطول
officer	ẓābiṭ	ضابط
outpost	ṭaliƐa	طليعة
parley	mħādsa, mufāwaḍāt	مفاوضات
password	ishƐār	إشعار
patrol	daurīye	دوريّة
peace	ṣulħ, salām	صلح
pistol	ṭabanzha, fard	طبنجة
police	bōlis	بوليس، شرطة
policeman	bōlis	ضابط بوليس
poison gas	kāz msimm	غاز مسمّ
prisoner	asīr	أسير

private	biyādi	بيادىّ
proclamation	iƐlān	إعلان
propaganda	daƐāya	دعاية
railway line	chaṭṭ sikkat il-ħadīd	خطّ سكّة الحديد
railway station	mħaṭṭa	محطّة
recruit	Ɛaskar zhdīd	عسكر جديد
regiment	ālāy	آلاى
retreat	idbār	إدبار
revolver	msaddas	مسدّس
rifle	bārūd	بارودة
sabre	ħusām, sēf	سيف
sandbag	kās ramal	كأس رمل
sentry	ħāris	حارس
shell	'ánbala	قنبلة
to smuggle	harrab : iharrib	هرّب
spy	zhāsūs	جاسوس
steamer	wābūr, markab	مركب
steel helmet	chōza	خوذة
submarine	ghawwāṣa	غوّاصة
surrender	taslīm	تسليم
tank	dabbāba	دبّابة
tent	siwān, chēme	خيمة
traitor	chā'in	خائن
trenches	chandaq	خندق
uniform	badle rasmīye, fōrma	بدلة رسميّة
victory	naṣr	نصر
volunteer	mutaṭawwiƐ	متطوّع
warship	safīne ħarbīye	سفينة حربية
withdrawal	insiħāb	انسحاب

3. Political

administration	**idāra, sálṭana**	إدارة، سلطة
ally	**ħalīf,** *pl.* **ħúlafa**	حليف
ambassador	**safīr, iltshi**	سفير
attorney-general	**muddaƐi Ɛumūmi**	مدّع عموميّ
belligerent	**muħārib**	محارب
boycott	**muqāṭaƐa**	مقاطعة
budget	**mizāniye**	ميزانيّة
candidate	**mrashshaħ**	مرشّح
capitulations	**imtiyāzāt**	إمتيازات
censorship	**riqābe**	رقابة
census	**iħṣā**	إحصاء
citizen	**múduni, tabƐa**	مدنيّ
civil disobedience	**Ɛiṣyān múduni**	عصيان مدنيّ
colonies	**mustaƐmarāt**	مستعمرات
committee	**lizhne**	لجنة
Communist	**shuyūƐi**	شيوعيّ
conference	**mu'tamar**	مؤتمر
consul	**qunṣul**	قنصل
Conservative Party	**ħizb il-muħāfiẓīn**	حزب المحافظين
co-operation	**taƐāwun**	تعاون
crisis	**ázime**	أزمة
debate	**munāqishe**	مناقشة
decree	**marsūm**	مرسوم
dictatorship	**diktātūriye**	دكتاتوريّة
diplomacy	**diblōmāsiye**	دبلوماسيّة
disarmament	**nazƐ is-silāħ**	نزع السلاح
dominions	**mumtalakāt**	ممتلكات
extremist	**mutaṭarrif, mitƐaṣṣib**	متطرّف
Fascism	**fāshistiye**	فاشستيّة

Foreign Office	**wizārit il-chārzhiye**	وزارة الخارجيّة
freedom	**ħurriye**	حرّيّة
free speech	**ħurriyet il-kalām**	حرّيّة الكلام
government	**ħkūme**	حكومة
High Commissioner	**mandūb sāmi**	مندوب سام
Home Office	**wizārit id-dāchiliye**	وزارة الداخليّة
House of Commons	**mazhlis il-Ɛumūm**	مجلس النوّاب
House of Lords	**mazhlis il-aƐyān**	مجلس الأعيان
immigration	**muhāzhra, hizhra**	مهاجرة
independence	**istiqlāl**	إستقلال
inflation	**taḍachchum**	تضخّم
international	**dōli**	دوليّ
king	**malik**	ملك
law	**qānūn**	قانون
law and order	**niẓām**	نظام
leader	**zaƐīm,** *pl.* **zúƐama**	زعيم
League of Nations	**zhamƐiyet il-umam**	جمعيّة الأمم
legation	**mufawwaḍiye**	مفوّضيّة
Liberal Party	**ħizb il-aħrār**	حزب الأحرار
His Majesty	**zhalālit il-malik**	جلالة الملك
majority	**aktarīye**	أكثريّة
mandate	**intidāb**	انتداب
mayor	**ra'īs il-baladīye**	رئيس البلديّة
meeting	**izhtimāƐ**	إجتماع
memorandum	**muzákkara**	مذكّرة
minister	**wazīr**	وزير
Ministry of Agriculture	**wizārit iz-zirāƐa**	وزارة الزراعة
Ministry of Economic Warfare	**wizārit il-ħarb il-iqtiṣādīye**	وزارة الحرب الاقتصاديّة
Ministry of Colonies	**wizārit il-mustaƐmarāt**	وزارة المستعمرات
Ministry of Education	**wizārit il-maƐārif**	وزارة المعارف

Ministry of Information	**wizārit nashr il-achbār**	وزارة نشر الأخبار
Ministry of Finance	**wizārit il-māliye**	وزارة المالية
Ministry of Justice	**wizārit il-ħaqqāniye**	وزارة الحقانية
Ministry of War	**wizārit il-ħarbiye**	وزارة الحرب
minority	**aqalliye**	أقلية
monarchy	**malikiye**	ملكية
municipal council	**baladiye**	بلدية
national bloc	**kutla waṭaniye**	كتلة وطنية
nationalism	**waṭaniye**	وطنية
negotiations	**mufāwaḍāt**	مفاوضات
neutrality	**ħālit il-ħiyād**	حالة الحياد
obligations	**iltizāmāt**	إلتزامات
Office of Public Works	**wizārit il-ashghāl il-ɛumūmiye**	وزارة الأشغال العمومية
opposition	**il-mɛārḍa**	المعارضة
party	**ħizb, fi'a**	حزب، فئة
patriotism	**ħibb il-waṭan**	حبّ الوطن
politician	**siyāsi**	سائس
politics	**siyāse**	سياسة
popular front	**zhabhe shaɛbiye**	جبهة شعبية
president	**ra'is**	رئيس
press	**ṣaħāfa**	صحافة
prestige	**iɛtibār**	إعتبار
Prime Minister	**ra'is il-wúzara**	رئيس الوزراء
progress	**taraqqi**	ترقّ
propaganda	**daɛāya**	دعاية
public opinion	**ra'y il-ɛāmm**	رأى العامّ
ratification	**ibrām**	إبرام
reaction	**razhɛiye**	رجعية
refugee	**lāzhi**	لاجى

republic	**zhamhuriye**	جمهورية
revenue	**dachl**	دخل
revolution	**saura**	ثورة
rights	**huqūq**	حقوق
sabotage	**ɛārqale**	عرقلة
self-government	**ħukm zāti**	حكم ذاتي
separatism	**infiṣāliye**	إنفصالية
slogan	**shiɛār**	شعار
Socialist	**ishtirāki**	إشتراكي
solidarity	**ittiħād**	إتّحاد
speech	**chiṭāb**	خطاب
statistics	**iħṣā'iyāt**	إحصائيات
strike	**iḍrāb**	إضراب
taxes	**ḍarāyib**	ضرائب
trade pact	**ittifāq tizhāri**	إتّفاق تجاري
trade union	**naqāba**	نقابة
treaty	**muɛāhide**	معاهدة
unemployment	**biṭāla**	بطالة
unity	**ittiħād**	إتّحاد
viceroy	**nā'ib malik**	نائب ملك
to vote	**intachab**	إنتخب
vote	**ṣōt**	صوت
voter	**mintachib**	منتخب

4. Commercial

account	**ħisāb**	حساب
advertisement	**iɛlān**	إعلان
agent	**ɛamil, simsār**	عميل
article	**ṣinf**	صنف
attorney	**wakil**	وكيل

auction	**mazād**	مزاد
average	**Ɛawārīye**	عواريّة
balance-sheet	**mīzānīyat il-ḥisāb**	ميزانيّة الحساب
bale	**bāle**	بالة
bank	**bank,** *pl.* **bnūge**	بنك
banknote	**war'a na'dīye, war'it bank**	ورقة بنك
bankrupt	**miflis, mfallas**	مفلس
bill	**ḥawāle, bōlīṣa**	حوالة
bill of lading	**bōlīṣet ish-shaḥn**	بوليصة الشحن
board of directors	**il-idāre**	الادارة
bond	**sanad**	سند
brand	**zhins, shikl**	نوع، شكل
broker	**simsār**	سمسار
buyer	**mushtari, shāri**	مشترٍ
capital	**rasmāl**	رأسمال
cash	**na'd, Ɛumle**	عملة
cash book	**daftar yōmīye**	دفتر يوميّة
Chamber of Commerce	**ghurfit tizhāra**	غرفة تجارة
cheque	**shēk, ḥawāle**	حوالة
circular	**shirkūlārīye**	شركولاريّة
C.O.D.	**id-dafƐ Ɛind il-wuṣūl**	الدفع عند الوصول
commerce	**tizhāra, kār**	تجارة
commission	**qūmisyōn**	قوميسيون
company	**shirke**	شركة
complaint	**shakwa**	شكوى
consignment	**irsālīye**	إرساليّة
contract	**kuntrāto**	قنطراتو، مقاولة
correspondence	**mrásile**	مراسلة
credit	**kredito**	كريديتو
creditor	**ṣāhib id-dēn**	دائن
crisis	**ázime, ḍīq il-ḥāl**	ضيق الحال

currency	**Ɛimle**	عملة
current	**zhāri**	جارٍ
customer	**zbūn,** *pl.* **zabāyin**	زبون
damage	**chsāra**	خسارة
debt	**dēn**	دين
debtor	**madyūn**	مديون
to deliver	**waṣṣal : iwaṣṣil**	أوصل
demand for payment	**ṭalab**	طلب
demand in the market	**rawāzh, miswā'**	رواج
depression	**wuqūf il-ḥāl, kasād**	كساد
director	**mudīr**	مدير
discount	**eskōnto, chaṣam**	خصم
dishonoured	**marfūḍ**	مرفوض
draft	**ḥawāle**	حوالة
duty	**rasm gumruk, ḍarībe**	رسم كمرك
employee	**mistachdam**	مستخدم
endorsement	**taẓ-hīr**	تظهير
exchange	**kambiyo, mubādale**	مبادلة
rate of exchange	**siƐr**	سعر
bill of exchange	**kambyāle**	كمبيالة
expenses	**maṣārīf, maṣrūfāt**	مصروفات
export	**taṣdīr**	تصدير
fall	**suqūt, nuzūl**	سقوط
file	**aḍbāra**	أضبارة
firm	**maḥall**	محلّ
freight	**naulūn**	ناولون
gain	**maksab**	مكسب
gross	**qā'im**	قائم
guarantee	**ḍamāne**	ضمانة
guarantor	**kafīl**	كفيل
haulage	**naql**	نقل

import	**wārid**	وارد
imported	**min barra**	مستورد
importer and exporter	**tāzhir bi l-wāridāt wi ṣ-ṣādirāt**	تاجر بالواردات والصادرات
income	**dachl**	دخل
instalment	**taqṣīṭ**	تقسيط
insurance	**segurta, ta'min**	تأمين
insurance policy	**boliṣat segurta**	بوليصة سكورتا
interest	**fā'iẓ**	فائظ
inventory	**qā'imat il-mauzhūdat**	قائمة الموجودات
invoice	**qā'imat il-ḥisāb, fātūra**	قائمة حساب
journal	**daftar yōmi**	دفتر يومي
ledger	**(daftar) istāz**	أستاذ
limited company	**shirke maḥdūdit id-ḍamān**	شركة محدودة الضمان
liquidation	**taṣfiya**	تصفية
loan	**qirḍ, ɛāriya**	قرض
loss	**chsāra**	خسارة
market	**sū', sūq**	سوق
maturity	**istiḥqāq**	إستحقاق
mortgage	**rahniyet bēt**	رهنية بيت
net	**ṣāfi**	صاف
offer	**dafaɛ**	دفع
office	**maktab, dā'ira**	مكتب
an order	**tauṣiye**	توصية
partner	**sharīk**	شريك
partnership	**sharāke**	شراكة
payment	**dafaɛ**	دفع
power of attorney	**wakāle**	وكالة
price	**taman, siɛr**	ثمن
price list	**qā'imet asɛār**	قائمة أسعار

profit	**ribḥ**	ربح
protest	**brōtesto**	بروتستو
a purchase	**shara**	شراء
rate	**siɛr**	سعر
receipt	**wuṣūl, waṣl**	وصل
recommendation	**shihāde**	شهادة
registered letter	**maktūb msōgar**	مكتوب مسوكر
report	**taqrīr**	تقرير
rise	**irtifāɛ**	إرتفاع
risk	**chaṭar**	خطر
salary	**māhiye, maɛāsh**	راتب
sale	**bēɛ**	بيع
salesman	**bayyāɛ**	بيّاع
sample	**máṣṭara**	مسطرة، انموذج
security	**kafāle**	كفالة
seller	**bayyāɛ**	بيّاع
share	**sahm,** *pl.* **as-hum**	سهم
to ship	**shaḥan : ishḥan**	شحن
to sign	**amḍa : yimḍi**	أمضى
signature	**imḍa**	إمضاء
statement	**taqrīr**	تقرير
stock exchange	**bōrṣa**	بورصة
storage	**machzaniye**	مخزنية
sum	**mablagh**	مبلغ
sum total	**mazhmūɛ**	مجموع
trustee	**wakīl ṭābiq iflās**	وكيل طابق إفلاس
value	**qīme**	قيمة
valuation	**taqdīr**	تقدير
warehouse	**machzan**	مخزن